



LAKE PLEASANT MILLERS FALLS MONTAGUE CENTER MONTAGUE CITY TURNERS FALLS

The Montague Reporter

YEAR 16 – NO. 19

also serving Irving, Gill, Everett and Wendell

\$1

EDITOR@MONTAGUEREPORTER.ORG

THE VOICE OF THE VILLAGES

MARCH 1, 2018

DCR Sells Rights to Selectively Log 118 Acres of Wendell State Forest

By MARK HUDYMA
and MIKE JACKSON

Stands of red pine, white pine and oak at Wendell State Forest, likely including trees planted by the Civilian Conservation Corps, will be harvested over the next two years by John Conkey & Sons.

The Belchertown company, which submitted a high closed bid at an auction last Friday, has agreed to install four new gates at park entrances, avoid sites flagged as culturally significant, and finish the job by February 2020.

Conkey bid \$37,624 at the Department of Conservation and

Recreation (DCR) auction, beating out two other bids of \$13,811 and \$8,700. According to DCR assistant forest manager Keith DiNardo, who is overseeing the project, the contract “included a series of in-kind services, which will be provided by the logger: infrastructure, repair, maintenance, gate installation, kiosk construction and delivery.”

When the work is done, 8% of the sale, or just over \$3,000, will go to the town of Wendell.

The majority of the area slated for harvesting is between Ruggles and Wickett ponds, and Brook and Carlton roads. It consists of 105 acres of oak and white pine. A separate stand, on either side of Montague Road, is of non-native red pine, believed to be under threat from red pine scale.

Forest managers have prescribed different methods of thinning the stands with the goal of “enhanc[ing] forest productivity, species diversity and forest complexity.”

Wendell historical commissioner Lisa Hoag attended Friday’s bid

see LOGGING page A3



HUDYMA PHOTO

At DCR’s request, the logging company will install locking gates at this and three other entrances to the state forest, so they can be closed during mud season.

Strike and Lockout Averted as MNA, Baystate Return to Bargaining Table

By SHEA FERAL

GREENFIELD – Last week, the nurses at Baystate Franklin Medical Center (BFMC) withdrew their one-day strike notice that had been set for Wednesday. The hospital’s owner, Baystate Health, requested that the nurses, who are represented by the Massachusetts Nurses Association (MNA), withdraw the notice so that the two parties could resume

negotiating their contract.

Baystate and the MNA returned to the bargaining table on Monday, expressing optimism to the press, and during that day, they set another session for Wednesday.

Donna Stern, a registered nurse and co-chair of the MNA BFMC bargaining committee, said late Wednesday that there were no updates to report. The union has stated that “BFMC nurses retain the right to

re-issue a new 10-day strike notice of a new one-day strike if necessary.”

Baystate spokesperson Shelly Hazlett reported Wednesday night that the company “has proactively updated our proposals around staffing, health insurance, and wages,” and is “disappointed that the MNA has not yet accepted” the proposals.

The company expects bargaining to continue on March 14.

see BAYSTATE page A5

TFHS Sports: Girl’s Basketball Team Takes First Game of Playoffs, 56–24

By MATT ROBINSON

And so it begins. The final season for the class of ‘18.

The seniors on this team have turned a 3–16 team just a few years ago into one that made the playoffs three straight times.

Turners ended their regular season with a record of 12–8, and came into the postseason ranked fourth in D4 West. On Monday, they hosted the Pioneers of Pathfinder in the first round of the playoffs. The Pioneers came into the game ranked 13 with a record of 11–9.

No one can predict how the Turners girls will do in the playoffs this year. The sky’s the limit, but one loss will end their storied schoolgirl careers.

Throughout this season, I’ve heard comments like “If they play like this next game, they’re done,” and “If they play like this in the playoffs, they can beat any team.” So even the people who’ve followed these seniors for a decade can’t predict how they’ll do in their final season. The task for the True Blue faithful is to support their young ladies on the court, and console them if they lose another game this year.

In Monday’s game, when the Pioneers held a 5–2 lead after 2 and a half minutes, the home crowd seemed to squirm in their bleachers. Powertown looked as good as ever, but Pathfinder kept stealing inside passes.

Luckily, the Pioneers were pretty cold, so the damage was limited. Turners went on an incredible run,

see TFHS SPORTS page A8



DAVID HOITT PHOTO

Turners’ Abby Loynd drives the ball past Pioneer defender Alijahis Daly during the first round of the division tournament.

GILL-MONTAGUE SCHOOL COMMITTEE

Amid Teacher Layoffs, District Suddenly Prioritizes Hiring School Police Officer

By MIKE JACKSON

GILL-MONTAGUE – School superintendent Michael Sullivan has proposed the district and towns find the money to hire a school police officer next year. His proposal comes in the wake of the Parkland, Florida school shooting that left 17 people dead, and represents a shift in spending priority even as the district considers changing class schedules so that four educator positions can be eliminated.

With benefits included, the police officer, also known as a school resource officer, is estimated to cost \$80,000 a year. A previous officer, supported in part by federal grant

funding, was terminated several years ago after that grant phased out. Under Sullivan’s proposal, a new officer would be funded 50% by the district, 45% by the Montague police department, and 5% by the town of Gill.

School committee member Shawn Hubert said at the committee’s Tuesday night meeting that he planned to discuss the possibility with Montague acting police chief Christopher Bonnett.

“I think the safety of our students is critical,” member Jane Oakes said. “If at some point, because we have to do this, the budget becomes unsustainable, then I’m more than

see GMRSD page A5



JACKSON PHOTO

Sheffield Elementary third grade teacher Sherry Wood (left) is congratulated by school committee members Christina Postera and Timmie Smith for her recent Pioneer Valley Excellence in Teaching Award during a break in Tuesday’s school committee meeting.

MONTAGUE SELECTBOARD

Planter Committee Withers, But New Tree Subcommittee Will Create a “Wood Bank”

By JEFF SINGLETON

At the same Montague selectboard meeting that announced the resignation of Gary Konvelski, the last surviving member of the town’s planter committee, the Montague tree committee spawned a new subcommittee to oversee the creation of a wood bank. This turn of events came as Sean Mahoney presented a twelve-page “Wood Bank Operations Plan” to the board.

The wood bank, as described by Mahoney, would take unprocessed and processed wood from “authorized donors” and distribute it, primarily to those who qualify for fuel assistance. Donors would include the town of Montague, the Turners Falls Fire District, the power company Eversource, the state, and “other donors.”

In other words, those wood piles remaining next to sidewalks when town trees are cut down, which sometimes seem to mysteriously disappear, would now have a clear destination.

According to the draft plan, volunteers would process and stack wood near the town recycling center behind Judd Wire. Town planner Walter Ramsey said that although

several solar arrays and a regional transit car barn are slated to be constructed in the area, the recycling center and potential wood bank will remain “at the present time.”

Mahoney’s plan included detailed specifications for donated wood, an organizational diagram linking the departments and committees implementing the policy, policies covering volunteers and liability, and educational programs about heating with wood.

The plan estimates that initially, the process could generate approximately fourteen cords of firewood each heating season. Applications for this wood, including eligibility certification and “voucher” distribution, would be processed by the Gill-Montague senior center. The senior center would also coordinate “alternative delivery of wood to residents with limited mobility.”

Mahoney, who described himself as a “town meeting member from Precinct 6,” is a “professional forester,” according to background information presented at the meeting. David Detmold, a founder of the tree committee, and Roberta Potter, director of the Council on Aging, were also present.

see WOOD BANK page A5

The Montague Reporter

"The Voice of the Villages"

Editorial Group

Mike Jackson, *Managing Editor*
Nina Rossi, *Features Editor*
Chris Sawyer-Lauçanno, *Poetry Page*
Victoria Maillo, *Spanish Page*
Beverly Ketch, *Children's Page*
Lisa McLoughlin, *Science Page*
Emily Alling, *Web Coordinatrix*

Production Group

Don Clegg, *Distribution Manager*
Christopher Carmody, *Layout*
Hugh Corr, *Editorial Assistant*
Gloria Kegeles, *Editorial Assistant*

Technical Administration

About Face Computing

Founded by
Arthur Evans Harry Brandt David Detmold
August 2002

CORRECTION

In last week's coverage of the February 20 meeting of the Leverett selectboard and finance committee, we wrote that "there was grumbling by [selectboard chair Peter] d'Errico about CPA funds earmarked for land preservation resulting in properties being removed from the tax rolls," and that "Bill Mitchell's farm on Teawaddle Hill was cited as an example.... Mitchell gets to keep his land and work on it, but no longer has to pay taxes on it... according to a former town official."

Multiple people in attendance have clarified to us that Mitchell's property was not "cited" in the meeting. (Nor was the land on Brushy Mountain formerly owned by W.D. Cows Co., mentioned in the same paragraph.)

What's worse, the background information provided to our reporter outside of the meeting appears to have been incorrect.

"Whoever he talked to is a moron and doesn't know what he's talking about," Mitchell told us. His family's 170-acre farm has been under

Chapters 61 (forest) and 61A (farm) for over 30 years, and in 2012 they sold the development rights to 165 of those acres to the town, the state, the Kestrel Trust, and the Rattlesnake Gutter Trust.

"There were absolutely no tax implications," Mitchell said of the 2012 restrictions. "We pay over \$9,300 a year in taxes on this place."

He also mentioned that following an accident last year, he is no longer working the land, and he and his wife Gwyn would like to rent it out to farm – serious prospects only, please.

Our apologies to the Mitchells, and to our readers.

We do think that anonymous sourcing is justifiable in certain cases, such as to preserve a source's safety, which we do not believe to have been the case last week.

Reporters should either properly verify, or properly attribute, everything they report, so that when errors are published, which seems inevitable at our pay rate, they're easier to track down and set straight.



David James, Lake Pleasant's "Postal Master Relief/Replacement," poses behind the stamp window at the tiny post office. The mail is now put in boxes outside, because the hours – Mondays through Fridays from 2:15 to 4:15 p.m., and Saturdays from 8:30 to 11:30 a.m. – aren't very convenient.

Canaries in the Diploma Mines

Since last Thursday, over 20,000 teachers have been on strike in West Virginia, shutting down schools in all of its 55 counties.

The state's economy has been hit especially hard by the loss of coal industry jobs in the last decade; its GDP and population have both been shrinking; its public sector struggles mightily to balance the books. Its teachers have the third-lowest pay, and have been leaving in droves for greener pastures.

But this era's crisis, even where other indicators are strong, tends to play out in rising healthcare costs most of all. Predictably, the state insurance system, the Public Employees Insurance Agency, is being restructured to push more and more costs onto workers.

Pushing back against these costs is the main focus of the strike, which is technically illegal – it was originally intended to operate as a rolling walkout, with new sets of counties walking out as courts issue injunctions to send teachers back to their classrooms, but the momentum boiled over.

Thursday, Friday, Monday and Tuesday, communities across the state rallied to support their teachers by organizing alternate childcare and food programs.

On Tuesday the governor, Jim Justice, offered a concession: a

5% raise, front-loaded in the first year. (The teachers were originally promised 4% spread over five years.) Union leaders announced that the strike was over, after a "cooling-off" day Wednesday, and urged their members to go back to work Thursday.

But on Wednesday, the strike's momentum rolled right over those leaders. The strike, after all, was against skyrocketing healthcare contributions and premiums. By the time this issue went to press, all 55 county school systems had again announced fresh closures on Thursday: a genuine wildcat action.

What will happen next is anyone's guess. West Virginians draw on deep cultural memories of labor militancy, and support for the teachers has been strong. But the money must come from somewhere; we have all, ultimately, been tethered to the fortunes of the market.

West Virginia has the lowest proportions of bachelors' and advanced degrees in the country, and the highest rates of Type 2 diabetes and death by overdose.

Which begs the question... Which is more dangerous to the average American student: a school building that is insufficiently locked down and guarded, or an education system that is insufficiently funded?

Published weekly on Thursdays.
Every other week in July and August.
No paper last week of November, or the Thursday closest to 12/25.

PHONE: (413) 863-8666
Please note new email addresses:
editor@montaguereporter.org
features@montaguereporter.org
ads@montaguereporter.org
bills@montaguereporter.org
circulation@montaguereporter.org
events@montaguereporter.org
poetry@montaguereporter.org
subscriptions@montaguereporter.org

Send address changes to:
The Montague Reporter
177 Avenue A
Turners Falls, MA 01376

Advertising and copy deadline is **MONDAY at NOON.**

This newspaper shall not be liable for errors in advertisements, but will print without charge that part of the advertisement in which an error occurred. The publishers reserve the right to refuse advertising for any reason and to alter copy or graphics to conform to standards of the newspaper, such as they are.

Annual Subscription Rate:
\$30 for walking subscriptions;
\$40 for driving route subscriptions;
\$60 for mailed subscriptions.
Call us or contact
subscriptions@montaguereporter.org
with any questions.

Letters to the Editors

Unnamed Source-ry

I am writing to express my very strong dismay at a portion of Rob Skelton's article in the February 22 issue of the *Montague Reporter* covering last week's Leverett Selectboard meeting. In the article he asserts that several properties are paying no taxes, that among those is the farm on Teawaddle Road. He credits this information to an unnamed "former town official."

The use of anonymous sources in reporting on any Town matter ought to have no place in the acceptable editorial policies of the *Montague Reporter*, and I am surprised that the editor allowed the article to be run with such a reference in it.

Without checking back through the details of that transaction I am not certain, but my recollection is that Rob has his facts about the tax status of that property totally incorrect. Far worse, though, is to attribute any matter of the importance of the tax implications of conservation purchases to some unnamed source.

I'd hope this proves to be a one-time slip of the editorial process.

George Drake
Leverett

I am writing in response to *Notes from the Leverett Selectboard – Officials: "There's No Way Out" in Budget* in the February 22 edition of the newspaper.

I have two major complaints: first, I feel that a report on a meeting should be a report on the meeting, and not a report on what some unnamed person said that was not actually said in our meeting. Second, the reporter should get the facts before going to print.

Both the Mitchell CR and the Brushy Mountain CR were revenue neutral for the town, as the land that was conserved was already in a Chapter 61 classification and retained that classification after the CRs went into effect, so the town continues to receive the same tax revenue as before.

What has changed is the land in these CRs can never be developed, thus their market value has decreased (although the real estate taxes have remained the same as outlined above).

Although the Mitchell Farm and Brushy Mountain were not mentioned at this meeting, there was more discussion on the CPA tax

that was not reported. This is an additional assessment that does not affect the town's tax rate; the first \$100,000 of a property's value is exempt from this assessment, and a resident can apply to become exempt from the entire CPA assessment. The money raised through the CPA assessment is matched 100% by the state, so Leverett is basically doubling this money. Besides being used to conserve forest and farmland, it has been used to fix up town-owned buildings – money that would otherwise have been raised through the tax rate.

Boring as these meetings can be, I would appreciate it if the reporting reflected what was said at the meetings. Clearly it is tempting to spice up an article to perhaps create controversy and engage the readers, but that should be a different article, not a report on a meeting.

I also want to thank *The Montague Reporter* for reporting on our meetings – this has been a great way to keep residents informed.

Yours,

Julie Shively
Leverett Selectboard

WE WELCOME YOUR LETTERS!

Montague Reporter

177 Ave. A, TF, MA 01376

editor@montaguereporter.org

Sign Me Up!

\$20 { 8 months (31 issues) for our walking routes
6 months (23 issues) for our driving routes
4 months (15 issues) for mailed subscriptions

The Montague Reporter
177 Avenue A, Turners Falls, MA 01376

Name: _____
Address: _____
Town: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____



JESSICA LARKIN ILLUSTRATION

Compiled by DON CLEGG

The Carnegie Library in Turners Falls is holding a **used book sale** this Saturday, March 3, from 10 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. There will be a football books collection, fiction, non-fiction, DVDs, CDs, audio books, children's books, and puzzles. No books will cost more than \$1.

Bypass your fear and be an engaged bystander in your community! On, March 3, Racial Justice Rising will host a **bystander training** at the First Congregational Church, 43 Silver Street, Greenfield.

The workshop will be hosted by Strong Oak Lefebvre, executive director and cofounder of the Visioning B.E.A.R. Circle Intertribal Coalition. Participants will explore what keeps them from addressing harm; use scenarios to highlight how to intervene in a safe way; try out interventions, and receive feedback about what is effective and what is not.

Childcare is available by RSVP to email@racialjusticerising.com. The program is free, and donations are welcome. Doors open at 9:45 a.m., and the workshop runs

from 10:15 a.m. to 12:15 p.m.

Sick of doing the same puzzles, over and over?

Greenfield Savings Bank in Turners Falls is providing space for a **puzzle swap** on Saturday, March 3 from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. Puzzles will be available for all ages.

Join Leah Hopkins (Narragansett/Niantic) and Elizabeth Perry (Aquinnah Wampanoag) for a presentation on **Maple Traditions in Northeastern Native Foods** this Saturday, March 3 at 1 p.m. at the Great Falls Discovery Center, 2 Ave A, Turners Falls.

Hopkins and Perry will demonstrate and teach about the various traditional Native cooking methods of the Coastal Northeast, and share the recipes and cooking techniques of their families as well as the nutritional content of traditional foods. Both will also speak to the historical influence that Northeastern Native food has had on modern cuisine.

This program will focus on the tradition of maple sugaring as an important, and much celebrated, gift of the early spring.

Erving Elementary School is hosting a free **birthday party for Dr. Seuss** to celebrate reading, literacy and books on Sunday, March 4, from 2 to 4 p.m. Musician and story-teller Roger Tincknell will perform, and an ice-cream social will follow in the school cafeteria.

Open to all ages, and free for all families, not just Erving residents.

The school is located at 28 Northfield Road (Route 63), Erving. This event is sponsored and funded by the school's Parent-Teacher Organization and the Erving Cultural Council.

The League of Women Voters of Franklin County will host **"Run for Something! A Forum on Public Service"** on Sunday, March 4, at 2 p.m. at 170 Main Street in Greenfield.

Guest panelists include Beth Bandy, selectboard member of Charlemont and co-director of Rural Commonwealth; Penny Ricketts, vice chair of the Greenfield Town Council; and Francia Wisniewski, chair of the Hampshire/Franklin Commission on the Status of Women and Girls and past Greenfield school committee member.

The event is free and open to the public, with complimentary refreshments.

Doing his best Alex Trebek impersonation, Northwestern District Attorney David E. Sullivan will host **Senior Savvy Jeopardy** on Tuesday, March 6, at 1 p.m. at the Erving Se-

nior Center, 1 Care Drive in Erving.

The event, in observance of National Consumer Protection Week, will be a fun, interactive computerized game designed to test seniors' knowledge of scams, how to protect their finances, and other consumer issues.

Lui Collins, a long-time **internationally acclaimed folk singer/songwriter**, will perform at the Great Falls Discovery Center in Turners Falls on Friday, March 9.

The coffeehouse takes place in the historic Great Hall of the Discovery Center at 2 Avenue A, in downtown Turners Falls. Doors open at 6:30, and music starts at 7 p.m. Coffee and homemade baked goods will be available. The Center is wheelchair accessible, and the museum will be open during intermission.

Suggested sliding scale donation, free for children. Donations help the Friends of the Discovery Center provide free nature programming for the public. For more information, please call the Discovery Center at (413) 863-3221 or online at greatfallsdiscoverycenter.org.

Join in the **biggest game of Candyland** you have ever played at the Carnegie Library on Saturday, March 10, starting at 10 a.m. Designed for children of all ages and their caregivers.

Send your local briefs to editor@montagureporter.org.

LOGGING from page A1

opening, after the commission had protested to the state and lobbied unsuccessfully to delay it.

Hoag and fellow historical commissioner Melinda Godfrey asked the town selectboard last week to co-sign their letter to DCR commissioner Priscilla Geigis, but they declined, explaining that they did not wish to weigh in on such short notice.

"[W]e are currently working with DCR to protect a large area of acknowledged, rare, fragile, sensitive, significant cultural resources situated within the Brook Road Logging Proposal Area," the commission wrote to DCR last Thursday, explaining that the town had heard about the auction only last week.

On Friday, Hoag explained that she had recently toured the property with a members of both the Wampanoag and Narragansett tribal historic preservation offices, who had certified that a number of stone features within the park were ceremonial, and sacred to Native people.

"There's a complex of maybe 20 sites that have significance," she said. "There's some celestial alignment.... Of course, I'm a white person speaking about this, so I may get some of this wrong."

The commission's complaint stated that "the resource specialists were not allowed to provide the specific management guidelines for the large area of fragile, sensitive cultural resources (Ceremonial Stone Landscape Complex) in question. Specifically: they were not allowed the necessary time to identify the large area of cultural resources located in the Brook Road area..."

At the bid opening, Hoag was collegial with the forest managers, and even agreed to sign off as a witness to the bid opening.

"These guys have been pretty good," she said. "They've flagged the areas we've identified."

"Regardless of whether they have been officially identified," DiNardo said, "we'll be treating [culturally sensitive sites] like they have been."

A proposal for the project published in February 2016 did not mention Native cultural sites, only "potential for the occurrence of stone walls and possibly foundations." But the prospectus that went out to bid this year said that "sensitive cultural features are believed to be present on site... No machines are to operate within these areas," which are flagged with specific colors.

The prospectus also requires the company to purchase four "single and double leaf steel" gates and lock posts, and install them at park entrances, ostensibly to prevent vehicles from entering during mud season: one on Dirth Road, one on each end of Carlton Road, and a fourth on Wickett Pond Road at the entrance to the forest.

The gates may be installed as early as May 15 of this year, when the logging operations may also commence.

"I understand people are concerned they might be losing access to the forest," DiNardo said at Friday's bid opening.

"It's the park supervisor's intent to keep vehicles off the road during [certain] periods of time throughout the year... there's problems with people driving out there as soon as the snow melts and getting stuck, it's a real fiasco. That's their operation, they asked me to put in gates."

Forestry management supervisor Bill Hill explained that this type of arrangement is typical. "We try to turn the revenue that comes from harvesting the trees back into maintaining the property and making improvements to the property," he said. "It's not about making money, it's about trying to improve the state forests and parks."



www.MontagueMA.net
local gossip, news & business listings

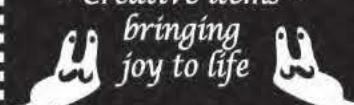
NANCY L. DOLE
BOOKS & EPHEMERA



20 State Street,
Bucklandside
Shelburne Falls
413-625-9850
ndole@crocker.com
closed Mondays

Nina's Nook

Uniquities,
Frivolities,
Un-necessariums
~ Creative items ~



Open 12 to 5 p.m.
Thursdays through Saturdays
125A Avenue A Turners Falls
413.834.8800

www.ninasnook.com

WE HEAT
FRANKLIN
COUNTY

- System 2000 (Energy Kinetics)
- Thermo Pride
- Weil-McLain
- Other Major Brands
- Expert Burner Service



(413) 773-3622

Mesa Verde

Eat In or Take Out!

BURRITOS,
BOWLS,
SOFT TACOS,
QUESADILLAS

Now Serving
BBC Steel Rail

(413) 772-2531
10 Fiske Ave - downtown Greenfield
Hours: Mon - Sat 11:30 am - 9 pm

PLACE YOUR BUSINESS CARD HERE (12 WEEK MINIMUM). CALL 863-8666

Fred Holmgren
Piano Tuning & Repair

Stay tuned!

(978)544-5494
fredholmgren@gmail.com

Bringing Peace to Tired Muscles
From yard work, shoveling or exercise,
Stiff neck or Plantar Fasciitis?

Let me help

Gretchen Wetherby LMT

www.gretchenwetherby.massagetherapy.com
14 Bridge St. Millers Falls & 5 State St. Suite 6 Shelburne Falls
gretchenwlmt@gmail.com 413-824-7063

Open every day, 10 to 6

BOOK MILL
440 Greenfield Rd.
Montague, MA 01351

413-367-9206 www.montaguebookmill.com
Books you don't need in a place you can't find.

NOTES FROM THE GILL SELECTBOARD

Bridge Cameras Up And Running

By GEORGE BRACE

The Gill selectboard held its second February meeting on Wednesday the 21st, rather than Monday the 19th, due to the Presidents' Day holiday. Among other business, the board completed its role in the implementation of surveillance cameras on the French King Bridge by signing an agreement with the town of Erving outlining the two towns' responsibilities in the shared maintenance and operation of the system.

Town administrative assistant Ray Purington reported that he believed Erving would be taking up the agreement at their next selectboard meeting. Once signed by Erving, the agreement would go into effect.

The cameras were installed several months ago, and the system has been going through testing and adjustment. They allow the Gill and Erving police departments to monitor and record activity on the bridge, and were installed to help address issues involved with people jumping from it. The project has several goals, including the reduction of police response times, which may provide opportunities to intervene in suicide attempts, having better information available for families of possible jumpers, and reductions in the risks and costs of searches, both of which are substantial.

"Feels like an end to an extremely long process," said selectboard chair

Randy Crochier, who along with others has advocated for the cameras for many years, though he also noted that it is not a solution to the problem of suicides on the bridge, and prevention efforts will continue.

ADA Self-Evaluation

The board also discussed a scope of work proposal from the Franklin Regional Council of Governments (FRCOG) for an American with Disabilities Act (ADA) Self-Evaluation and Transition Plan to bring Gill into compliance with the ADA, and signed an associated contract for FRCOG to provide the work outlined in the proposal.

Gill recently received a \$15,000 grant from the state to pursue such a plan in accordance with the state's Community Compact Program. FRCOG will assist Gill in its self-evaluation of compliance with ADA requirements, catalog identified issues, and provide a transition plan with potential solutions for bringing the town of Gill's programs, services and facilities into compliance with the ADA where necessary.

The ADA is a federal civil rights law that prohibits discrimination against people with disabilities in all areas of public life, to ensure that they have the same rights and opportunities as everyone else.

Machinery Committee

Fred Chase II, a member of the newly-formed machinery commit-

tee, asked the board if they had any information on the status of that committee, which he said has had trouble scheduling a meeting.

Crochier replied that John Ward, the selectboard's representative to the committee, was the member of the board who might have an answer for him, but he was not present due to being out of town.

Chase said that he and Ward had begun inspecting machinery, and saw issues that should be addressed, but he was not sure how to move forward if the committee continues to have trouble scheduling a full meeting of its members.

Board member Greg Snedeker commented that sometimes town committees encounter problems in arranging meetings, and he understood the difficulties the machinery committee was having, but that it was not the board's job to schedule those meetings – they needed to do it themselves. At the end of the discussion, Crochier added that the board would see what it could do to help.

Other Business

Crochier also reported that the first of two community skates at Mount Hermon's McCollum Ice Arena, one of many events planned this year in celebration of Gill's 225th anniversary, was a great success. He estimated 70 people attended, including a group of Mount Hermon exchange students who had never seen snow or ice before. He said everyone had a great time, and it was suggested that the town make it an annual event.

Crochier said he was unable to attend the puzzle swap event at Slate Library, but had heard that it went well, and a suggestion was made to do another one in the summer and include books and games.

Purington reported that he is playing phone tag with the well engineer on the Gill Elementary well treatment project, and had no update on it.

The board regretfully accepted Stuart Elliott's resignation from the historical commission.

LOOKING BACK: 10 YEARS AGO THIS WEEK

Here's the way it was February 28, 2008: News from the Montague Reporter's archive.

Gill Agrees on School Closing Amendment

A controversial school committee proposal to amend the procedure by which Gill-Montague Regional School Committee will be able to close a district school carried in Gill by a margin of 26 to 22 on Monday night, at a special town meeting. The town of Montague approved the same proposal at a special town meeting on January 23.

Prior to Monday, the school committee needed the affirmative vote of 8 out of 9 of its members to close a school. The amendment allows a school to be closed with six out of nine affirmative votes on the school committee, along with the approval of a majority of voters at a town meeting in the town where the school targeted for closing is located.

Now that the school committee and both towns in the regional school district have approved the proposal, the new procedure for closing district schools will go into effect.

Public Hearing Scheduled On Montague's '09 Deficit

Town administrator Frank Abbondanzio said the town of Montague is facing a \$1.5 million budget deficit in the run-up to fiscal year '09, and wants the public to tell him what to do about it.

On Monday, Abbondanzio announced a public hearing on the budget, to be held during the March 17 selectboard meeting. A live call-in feature will be arranged.

"We're looking at a sizable deficit, at this point," he said. "The public hearing will look at how we got to be where we are, budget cuts we might make, sources of

new revenues – including possible overrides – and consequences, including cutting staff and reducing services... how we will get out of the woods. We encourage townspeople to come and tell us what services they feel are important."

Mass Aeronautics Comes to Town

The executive director of the Massachusetts Aeronautics Commission (MAC), Robert Welch, came to Montague on Monday afternoon to meet with the selectboard, and answer questions about the make-up of the town's airport commission, and about certain rules of operations Turners Falls airport manager Mike Sweeney has instituted at the municipal airport.

In attendance were members of the airport commission, and members of an ad-hoc pilots group called Save the Airport. Those two groups have been at loggerheads over Sweeney's rule setting, which the pilots claim is arbitrary and dictatorial, and over such matters as lease fees for hangars that Sweeney and the commission have set and enforced, which the pilots' group claims are higher than at other municipal airports in the area.

The pilots, who gathered petition signatures from more than 160 airport users seeking Sweeney's ouster at this time last year, claim changes at the airport under Sweeney's tenure have led to a decline in the use of the airport.

Sweeney has countered the pilots' complaints by saying all rules he has set or enforced at the airport are in compliance with MAC regulations, and the rise in rents for hangar space are needed to meet the town of Montague's budgetary goals for the airport. Those goals have not changed for years: the selectboard has consistently urged the airport commission and manager to find a way to stop running the airport at a deficit.

NOTES FROM THE ERVING SELECTBOARD

2% Raises for Town Workers

By KATIE NOLAN

On Monday, the Erving selectboard recommended a 2% cost of living adjustment (COLA) for town employees in the 2019 fiscal year. This recommendation will be sent to the finance committee for review. The approximately \$25,000 cost of the COLA will be added to the FY'2019 budget, which will be finalized at the March 5 selectboard meeting.

Senior and community center director Paula Betters gave a lively presentation of daily activities and special events at the center. Some of the activities are open to the entire community. Selectboard member William Bembury noted that he had lost 18 pounds after using the center's exercise equipment five days a week.

Upcoming events include a "Jeopardy Showdown" on March 6, adult Pitch games and open exercise equipment use on March 7 from 6 to 8 p.m., and a St. Patrick's Day lunch on March 13, with the Farley Five playing Irish music. On May 11, the center is hosting a "Celebrate Being 55 Years or Older" with music by Free Range.

"You'll be there, Bill," Betters said to Bembury.

"I know, my wife told me," Bembury replied.

Selectboard members discussed establishing a capital improvement stabilization fund, which will fund capital expenditures from all departments. Selectboard member Scott Bastarache said that it would allow the town to place one article

on each annual town meeting warrant for the fund, rather than numerous articles for different capital items. Bastarache suggested that selectboard members get to the May annual town meeting early and staff an information table to explain the capital improvement stabilization fund to citizens.

The board authorized administrative coordinator Bryan Smith to sign a \$225,000 contract with P3 project management consultants for owner's project management services during construction of the new library building. They also reviewed a draft \$399,570 contract with Johnson Roberts Associates for the new building's design. Smith said that he was waiting to hear from legal counsel about that contract.

Town clerk Richard Newton asked the board to support his search for contractors and estimates for codifying the town's bylaws. When selectboard chair Jacob Smith asked if the codified bylaws would be electronic and searchable, Newton said they would be. He said his "gut feeling" was that the project would cost about \$20,000 and that he would also propose a bylaw to allow the clerk to change numbering of chapters and sections.

After obtaining approval from the selectboard, Newton left the meeting saying, "I will continue my research."

Library director Barbara Friedman asked for an amendment to the FY'19 library budget to allow for additional staffing "during bridge time" as the new library building is constructed. Board members noted

that this was "a last-minute request," because the vote on the final budget is scheduled for Monday March 5.

The board asked Friedman to present her request to the fin com, and have a library trustee available to present it to the selectboard on March 5.

Bryan Smith will prepare a survey regarding the need for information technology support for town departments. Jacob Smith said that one question for staff is whether employees lose time to installing or troubleshooting programs. Bryan Smith said he would ask for replies by the March 19 staff meeting.

The board reviewed and revised a draft special town meeting warrant. Administrative coordinator Smith said he is waiting for a reply from town counsel regarding the wording of several articles. The draft warrant includes a twelve-page marijuana zoning bylaw, and a provision for appointing an associate member to the planning board.

The board appointed Renee Tela, Erik Semb, Erik Eichorn, Thomas Duffy, and William Bembury to the search committee for a recreation commission assistant.

The board signed a contract with the town of Gill regarding maintenance of the security camera at the French King Bridge.

The board signed a professional services contract with Franklin Regional Council of Governments to develop a landscaping services proposal for town properties.

The board reviewed and revised a draft scope of work for an invitation for bid for town trash removal.

RECYCLE

PAPER

Week of March 5
in Montague



more info? call: 863-2054



269 High Street - Greenfield
(413) 773-9639

**Local
Farmer-Owned**

**Products for the home,
farm, pets, yard & garden**

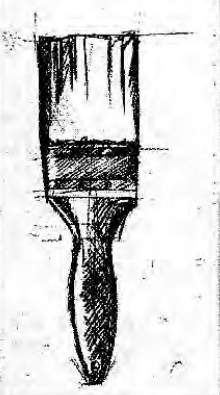
**If you
Feed it - Seed it - Weed it
We GOT it!**

www.greenfieldfarmerscoop.com



"It's just a stone's throw from reality."
Groceries - Videos - Home Baked Goods
Beer - Wine - Liquor
MON - SAT 7-9, SUNDAY 8-8
978-544-8646
Lockes Village Rd.
1/2 mile south of Wendell Center

PLACE YOUR BUSINESS CARD HERE (12 WEEK MINIMUM). CALL 863-8666



BARRY PAINTING
Interior and Exterior House Painting

Mark Barry

markbarry8@gmail.com
413-325-4470
413-774-5077

Free Estimates/ Fully Insured
189 Chapman Street
Greenfield MA 01301

Dudek Tax Service

10 Masonic Ave
Turners Falls
MA 01376

Frank J. Dudek

413.863.5394 - Office
413.775.3327 - Cell
frankd_74@yahoo.com



GMRS from page A1

willing to take the responsibility and the blame for doing it.”

Sullivan was unable to attend Tuesday’s meeting, but business director Joanne Blier and middle school/high school principal Annie Leonard spoke on his behalf.

Leonard said that the administration has identified the final two of the four positions it hopes to cut next year: a middle school math support teacher, and a high school science and middle school technology teacher who is retiring. It will only be possible to eliminate the science and technology position if the class schedule at the middle and high school is significantly overhauled, which must be approved by the teachers’ union; if this does not happen, the fourth proposed layoff would instead be a middle school reading teacher.

Leonard also shared with the committee the new proposed schedules for the middle and high school, which she said would slightly increase core academic class time at the expense of study skills and related arts periods.

School committee member Christina Postera acknowledged the “hardship that cutting staff [creates], while we’re also looking for more money for a resource officer.” “These are tough times,” she said, “so extend thanks to your staff for all they do.”

Next, Blier discussed the working plan to reduce the budget by an additional \$65,000, after the state calculation of Montague’s “affordable assessment” came in lower than expected. The district and Montague had previously discussed putting \$37,000 of the town’s money into a school stabilization account; the administration will now ask for that to go toward its operations.

Up to \$25,000 could be saved by deferring planned technology upgrades, and \$15,000 by reducing the transportation budget. “We believe we will be able to reduce the number of bus routes next year,” Blier said.

The committee plans to approve a final budget on March 13, and at its meeting Tuesday, members scheduled an additional meeting on March 6 to discuss in more depth the police officer proposal and other late-breaking changes.

Logo List Review

Three members of the community taskforce assigned to select final choices for a new high school team name and logo, Alana Martineau, Tupper Brown and Christine Bates, met with the school committee Tuesday for feedback on the list of 58 options it had shared two weeks earlier.

The discussion opened with some apparent confusion or dissent among taskforce members concerning names that had been included on that version of the list, but it was indicated that at least five – Tomahawk, Natives, Raiders, Nut Crackers, and Terminators – should already have been disqualified.

Two others, Chiefs and Tribe, remained on the list though taskforce members disagreed whether they met the criteria set by the committee, which specify that a new name should not “be associated with a particular group based on race, ethnicity, or culture” and “should be void of any cultural appropriation.”

“Tribe was one that was sort of a strong contender,” said Martineau. “A lot of the community that had a hard time giving up the Indian felt it was sort of a good compromise.”

Hubert read aloud a dictionary definition of the word “tribe.” “I

don’t know that you should use the word ‘tribe’ and have it automatically thought of as Native Americans,” he argued.

Martineau read a letter from an anonymous alum who said they “would be proud to come from the Turners Tribe,” despite having been a “quiet opponent of the Indian mascot.”

“The phrase that comes to mind is, ‘who are we fooling?’” Brown asked. “There is no doubt that ‘the Tribe’ will be taken as a reference to the prior mascot.”

“Speaking for myself,” said Montague member Mike Langknecht, “the double *entendre* is actually a little attractive.”

Eventually, the school committee decided to take a straw poll of whether its members felt each name on the list met the established criteria, and Tribe was given a thumbs-down by five of the seven members present.

Other names they eliminated were the Beavers, Captains, Chiefs, Dominators, Fury, Hydros, Invaders, Mudpuppies, Paper Makers, Participants, Tardigrades, Titans, Tornados, Twisters, and Yellow Jackets – the last simply because it would be too difficult to represent in blue and white.

The taskforce will reconvene this Thursday to continue whittling the list down to a handful of finalists, which may go to a public vote.

The 37 remaining suggestions are the Armored Mudballs, Bears, Blue Blazers, Blue Herons, Blue Jays, Bluebirds, Blues, Bobcats, Champions, Chargers, Cougars, Coyotes, Falcons, Fighting Fish, Fisher Cats, Great Blue Herons, Hornets, Millwrights, Osprey, Powertown, Pride, Rapids, Raptors, River Raptors, Rattlers, Shad, Snappers, Thunder, Thunderbirds, Thunderbolts, Torrents, Trailblazers, Turbines, Turbos, Wild Cats, Wildcats, and Wolves.

Other Business

The committee voted unanimously to “continue on course” with law firm Bulkley, Richardson and Gelinis, LLP, which is pursuing action against New England Medical Billing (NEMB). NEMB processed the district’s Medicaid reimbursement claims for a decade, which last spring turned out to have been systematically overbilled.

The district has so far paid over \$27,000 to the firm. “Is there really a number where we say, ‘okay, we’re not going to chase this anymore?’” asked Hubert.

“The losing side pays the legal fees,” chair Timmie Smith explained. “Presumably we will win, and they will pay.” Smith said that it was “reasonable to assume” NEMB would eventually reimburse the district the share it took of the overcharged reimbursements as its fee.

Director of information technology Tina Mahaney announced the district had been awarded a state Digital Connections Partnership grant of nearly \$150,000 which will be used to upgrade aging communications infrastructure at Hillcrest Elementary.

“It’s not, like, the most exciting thing to look at,” Mahaney said. “I’m probably the only one who’s really excited about wires and switches.”

Longtime Sheffield Elementary teacher Sherry Wood is the district’s nominee for the Pioneer Valley Excellence in Teaching Award. It is the district’s first year participating in the program.

Wood came to Tuesday night’s meeting, and received a bouquet and hearty congratulations from the committee.

**WOOD BANK** from page A1

Tom Bergeron, superintendent of the department of public works, indicated that he had reviewed the plan, and that “we already have a spot picked out, up at the transfer station.”

Selectboard member Rich Kuklewicz asked about liability for volunteers processing wood. Ramsey said town administrator Steve Ellis had consulted with the town’s insurance company, who said volunteers should be required to sign waivers.

“There’s different levels of waivers for different types of volunteers,” Ramsey said. “Someone using a chainsaw has to sign a certain waiver, and someone just helping out and not using machinery has to sign another type of waiver. I think we do have it covered.”

The selectboard voted to move forward with the wood bank proposal.

Planter Vacuum

The resignation of Gary Konvelski, the owner of Gary’s Coins & Antiques on Avenue A, from the planter committee came at the end of the meeting. Konvelski had been the only remaining member of the committee, which implements policies for the public planters along Avenue A in Turners Falls. He had also been designated the town’s “planter coordinator.”

The condition of the Avenue A planters – and what should be allowed in them – was the subject of a series of contentious meetings before the selectboard several years ago. But, Konvelski told this newspaper, once the controversy died down, there was little interest in attending meetings about planters, which are “adopted” by shopkeepers and other volunteers.

“They mostly take care of themselves,” Konvelski said of the planters and their caretakers. “I used to be in the military, and I used to say, ‘Just do it.’”

Sewer Time Bomb

Water Pollution Control Facility superintendent Bob McDonald and town accountant Carolyn Olson presented an overview of the potential budget and revenues for the town’s wastewater system in the next fiscal year. The department has lost substantial revenue from the closing of the Southworth paper plant (about \$200,000 annually) and the suspension of the “Montague process” which had allowed the facility to treat solids from other communities (about \$345,000). These losses, even when combined with proposed

FOOD - FUN - FRIVOLITY!

Montague Reporter Benefit
Tuesday, March 27

Wagon Wheel Restaurant
5:30 - 8:30

Rib-sticking Food
GAMES! BINGO! TRIVIA

\$25 for reservations in advance at:
FriendsOfMontagueReporter@gmail.com

\$30 at the door
MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

Doug’s Auto Body
Doug Smith - Owner

MA Reg. #RS2190

Ph. (413) 863-2785 39 Center Road
Fax: (413) 863-0120 Gill, MA 01354

FREE ESTIMATES **FREE LOANER CARS**
REPAIRS ON FOREIGN & DOMESTIC CARS AND TRUCKS

budget cuts, could create a potential FY’19 shortfall of \$466,385.

McDonald and Olsen calculated that making up that entire shortfall by an increase in sewer user fees would require increasing them by over 45%. At a sewer rate hearing last September, McDonald said the average annual residential sewer bill in Montague was \$521.64.

Discussing the future of the Montague process and the impending public auction of Southworth, coming in March, Ellis noted “there are some things that are pretty big in [sewer rate calculations] that could change.” A rather sober Rich Kuklewicz noted that a new solar array could reduce electricity costs in the next fiscal year, but that interest payments for debt on new pump stations would hit the sewer budget at about the same time.

Other Business

Tom Bergeron requested and received approval of a \$57,044 change order for sewer lining work. He also reviewed the policy of reimbursing residents for cars damaged by snow plows. For smaller amounts, residents will need to get body work

done and then submit the bill to the town. More costly damage will be handled through the town’s insurance company.

Bergeron also noted that the town had officially been informed by the state of structural instability on the Center Street bridge over the Sawmill River in Montague Center. The current plan is to make the bridge one lane, with traffic in two directions. Stop signs will be placed on either end of the bridge, unless the town decides to install stop lights.

At the request of acting police chief Chris Bonnett, the board appointed Justin Lawrence as a dispatcher.

The board also approved a revised tax agreement with the theater school Ja’Duke, which is building a new addition in the airport industrial park. The agreement had previously been approved by a Montague special town meeting.

The date for the next special town meeting, which will be devoted to funding to build a new public works facility, was set for Thursday, March 29. The selectboard’s next meeting will be held March 5.

**BAYSTATE** from page A1

“We have been seeking to negotiate a fair contract all along,” Stern wrote in a press release, “and we hope that the withdrawal of our strike notice gives us space to reach an agreement that benefits our patients, our nurses, and our community.”

The nurses, who have been working for 14 months without a contract, are seeking commitments to improve RN staffing and the restoration of previous health insurance plans options.

The withdrawal of the strike notice seems to defuse some of the tension that had been building between the two sides over the past month. The nurses gave the notice on February 16, and days after Baystate declined an offer from US representative Jim McGovern to host the negotiations between the two parties.

On Wednesday, February 21,

members of the MNA and the Greenfield city council, including council president Karen “Rudy” Renaud, attempted to meet with the Baystate Health CEO Dr. Mark Keroack in Springfield. The group was turned away by waiting security, according to Stern, who wrote that “Baystate’s failure to act in good faith is undermining its credibility with elected officials and our community.”

As reported last week, after the one-day strike was scheduled for Wednesday, Baystate Health had responded to the strike notice by announcing a three-day lockout of the union nurses, planning instead to hire temporary nurses for the 72-hour contracts.

When the union held a one-day strike last June, Baystate also initiated a 72-hour lockout, reportedly costing the company \$1 million on temporary workers and security at

the Greenfield facility. Baystate also challenged the legality of that June strike, bringing charges before the regional National Labor Relations Board that were subsequently dropped.

Baystate has not made any such charges regarding this month’s strike notice.

Baystate’s ongoing negotiation with the MNA is not its only conflict with union workers in Greenfield. The *Greenfield Recorder* reported in January that Baystate has a court date in May with the Law Enforcement Officers’ Union, which represents the security unit at the hospital, after its refusing to settle with the union over allegations that “while employees were in the early stages of forming a union, hospital staff used interrogation and surveillance tactics to try to disrupt the efforts.”



PLACE YOUR BUSINESS CARD HERE (12 WEEK MINIMUM). CALL 863-8666

CHARON ART VISIONARY TATTOO

Inspired, holistic tattoos
with a focus on personal energy,
experience and spontaneous creation.

www.CharonArt.com
413.676.9146
107 Avenue A, Great Falls

RIVERSIDE RADIATOR

General Auto Repair
RADIATORS for CARS - TRUCKS
and HEAVY EQUIPMENT
Foreign and Domestic

Propane Filling Station Route 2, Gill
863-4049 1-800-439-4049
8-5 Monday – Thursday

RENAISSANCE PAINTING

SINCE 1970
LICENSED, INSURED
INTERIOR/EXTERIOR PAINTING, ALL PHASES
POWER WASHING

BRIAN MCCUE, PRESIDENT
240 GREENFIELD ROAD • MONTAGUE, MA 01351
PHONE & FAX: 413-367-9896 • RENAISSANCEPAINTINGCOMPANY.COM

The Science Page is Powered by the Solar Store of Greenfield.

GREENFIELD

SOLAR STORE

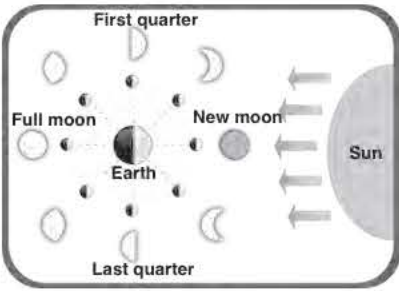
If you have a scientific idea you'd like to write about, a science-related book to review, an activity to advertise, or would like to share your experiences with science or any related field, please be in touch: science@montaguereporter.org.
— Lisa McLoughlin, editor

The Phases of the Moon

By LISA MCLOUGHLIN

Each moon cycle (lunation) includes the readily recognizable phases of the moon: New, First Quarter, Full, Last Quarter, and then we go back to New. These relate to where the moon is relative to the sun as observed from earth. In a new moon, when we can't see the face of the moon because it's in darkness, the moon and the sun are in pretty much the same place in our sky – that is, when we look at the moon from earth, the lineup is earth-moon-sun – the sun is behind the moon and lighting up the side we can't see.

At the full moon, the lineup is sun-earth-moon – the moon and sun are across from each other in the sky



(180 degrees apart) with us in-between, and the sun shining fully on the face of the moon we can see. Because the sun and moon are basically across from each other at this time, it makes sense that full moons rise around the same time as sunset, and set at about sunrise.

In-between the new moon and the full moon is first quarter, when the moon is half illuminated. At first

quarter, the sun and moon are 90 degrees apart: they started together at 0, and then at first quarter, the moon is 1/4 of the way around its orbit, which is why it's called a quarter moon, not a half-moon, even though it looks half full.

At last quarter, the sun and moon are also 90 degrees apart, this time because the moon has travelled 3/4 of the way around its orbit. When they meet up again, there's a new moon and the cycle starts again.

The complete cycle, called a Synodic Period, takes 29.5 days each time. So, since our months vary in length, and the time it takes the moon to go through her phases doesn't, sometimes we get a couple full moons in our calendar month,

or none at all; but at least we can be reassured that despite our ill-designed calendar, nothing is off with the moon herself.

We might try having two calendars – one for the sun to tell the seasons, and one for the moon. According to *Timeanddate.com*, there is an Islamic lunar calendar called the Hijri calendar. It is used to keep track of religious holidays, and is based on lunar months which begin when the first bit of crescent after a new moon is visible just after sunset.

According to a US Navy moon facts website, “for practical purposes, phases of the Moon and the percent of the Moon illuminated are independent of the location on the Earth from where the Moon is observed. That is, all the phases occur at the same time regardless of the observer's position.” However, what part of the moon's face that seems to be illuminated depends on where you are on the globe.



A “horned” crescent moon.

Here in the northern hemisphere, the moon lights up in each cycle from right to left. It's opposite for people south of the equator, who see the same amount of the face of the moon lit up, but “upside down” because they are looking at it from the bottom part of the globe.

I noticed this in a less dramatic way when I was in Florida, which is closer to the equator: the lit part of the crescent moon looked like it was on the bottom of the moon, with horns pointing up, while ours appears to be on the side.

BOOK REVIEWS

Useful Data for Energy Justice

- *Prosperous, Renewable Maryland: Roadmap for a Healthy, Economical, and Equitable Energy Future*
Arjun Makhijani, Ph.D. of the Institute for Energy and Environmental Research (Takoma Park, MD: IEER Press, 2016)
- *Energy Justice in Maryland's Residential and Renewable Energy Sectors*
Arjun Makhijani, Christina Mills, and Annie Makhijani (Takoma Park, MD: IEER Press, 2015)

By LISA MCLOUGHLIN

These books are reports of the Renewable Maryland Project, which “aims to create a roadmap for an energy sector” that reduces emissions by 90%; that is economically just and equitable; that is “robust and resilient,” resistant to and able to recover from failures; and “democratized,” with a higher participation of people in energy choices.

The two books explain how energy costs disproportionately affect low-income households. One reason is because even though they have less income, these households' energy

consumption is about the same, making heating and other energy costs a larger percentage of their budget. An average household spends less than 5% of their budget on energy, but for a household at the poverty level, it could be as much as 20%.

Another reason is that low-income housing is usually not very energy-efficient, costing about 1.5 times more energy to heat per square foot than average. In the Maryland study, landlords were averse to improving their rentals, even when there was no cost to them. According to the book, nearly half (46%) of all tenants who applied could not get permission for

audit despite qualifying for weatherization otherwise.

There are programs that help low-income residents pay their energy bills. In Massachusetts we have the fuel assistance program whose official name is Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) (apply at hedfuel.azurewebsites.net). These programs help individual families, but they don't go to the source of the problem – reducing these costs long-term.

Efficiency and weatherization improvements, besides making available solar and other renewable energy solutions, would reduce the need for emergency aid. In Maryland, they calculated that making investments in long-term solutions would produce between 10,000 and 15,000 full-time jobs lasting over a decade.

I liked these books because they are founded on hard data – from research into the burdens of energy costs to individuals and the state, and into scientifically-proven solutions. The books are a great resource for other municipalities or states looking to enact green energy policy, or for anyone seeking to better understand the disproportional burden of non-renewable energy on the health and budget of low-income families.

If you can only read one, I recommend *Energy Justice* as a better synopsis.



The parking lot at the Big Bend Power Station and Manatee Viewing Center in Apollo, Florida. (Creative commons image by Flickr user WalterPro.)

Moon Calendar for March 2018:
Two full moons this month, to make up for none in February. According to the US Navy (who are very big on moon observations), this occurs on average every 2.7 years.

Thursday, March 1:
Full Moon

Friday, March 9:
Last Quarter

Saturday, March 17:
New Moon

Saturday, March 24:
First Quarter

Saturday, March 31:
Full Moon

Astronauts aboard the space shuttle Discovery recorded this rarely seen phenomenon of the full moon partially obscured by the atmosphere of Earth on December 21, 1999.

NASA PHOTO

But let's face it, few people will probably want to read these books. Their real use is in providing a template for the kind of rigorous scientific study that shows how economically as well as environmentally sound renewable energy is, and the role of energy in social justice. It would be useful for the state, a nonprofit, or a university to do this kind of study in Massachusetts. I wish I knew some PhD candidates looking for renewable-energy-related projects.

Even if you're not looking for a dissertation topic, if you're interested in working on environmental justice issues, the Union of Concerned Scientists is another reputable group committed to providing energy justice information to affected low-income communities.

See their website: ucsusa.org/publications/catalyst/science-for-environmental-justice

environmental-justice or connect with Arise for Social Justice (arisespringfield.org), a Massachusetts group with ties to the national organization *EnergyJustice.net*.

Next Month:

Focus on the Environment. Earth Day will be Sunday, April 22. There will be numerous events in our area with themes of celebrating and protecting the Earth. National Park Week 2018 will be held from April 21 through 29. Although under President Trump we've pulled out of the Paris Climate Accord, signed on Earth Day in 2016, the US government maintains a website on Earth Day with events, projects, resources and ideas at epa.gov/earthday.

PLACE YOUR BUSINESS CARD HERE (12 WEEK MINIMUM). CALL 863-8666

FIVE EYED FOX

FRESH LOCAL COMFORT FOOD

BREAKFAST LUNCH DINNER

CRAFT BEER ESPRESSO

37 3RD ST

TURNERS FALLS

Quality. Craftsmanship. Original Thought.

www.renbuild.net

863-8316

Cell: (413) 834-4444
bedson1@comcast.net
Home Fax: (413) 863-0218

Maniatty Real Estate
92 Federal Street
Greenfield, MA 01301

Barbara A. Edson-Greenwald
Realtor, Broker, ABR, CRS, e-PRO, GRI, SRES, CBR
Ma. License #009535800

www.ManiattyRealty.com

Millers Falls Community Improvement Association

Join us & add your voice on how to build our community.
Meetings the 3rd Thursday of every month at 7pm.

Library—23 Bridge St. Millers Falls, Ma

Get the latest information and contact us at:
<https://millersfalls.wordpress.com>
millersfalls.improvement@gmail.com

SPIRITS, BREWS & FINE WINES

53C S. Main St. South Deerfield, MA
295 Amherst Rd. Sunderland, MA

New Location Now Open:
6 Main Road, in Gill
(formerly Jan's Package Store)
Come check us out!

Deerfield: (413) 665-2456
Sunderland: (413) 665-5030
Gill: (413) 863-5730

NOTES FROM THE WENDELL SELECTBOARD

Relocation Runaround: Unknown Cost of Moving Utility Poles Threatens Further Delays in Bridge Repair ...

By JOSH HEINEMANN

Wendell's highway commissioner, Mike Gifford and National Grid representative Richard Nalewski met the Wendell selectboard at its February 21 meeting for a pole hearing. Replacement of the bridge that spans Whetstone Brook in Wendell Depot will require moving some utility poles, and the selectboard must approve the new pole locations.

Nalewski did not have information about the \$40,000 price tag that National Grid gave originally for that pole moving because the responsibility to move the poles fell to Verizon, and the National Grid estimate dropped to \$0. Wendell sent Verizon a check for \$1,000 to get an estimate. Verizon accepted the check and cashed it, but has not answered with the estimate.

Wendell saved Chapter 90 money for this bridge repair, but that money may not be used to move poles, even though that job is part of the bridge construction. Neither may the state bridge repair and replacement grant.

An article on the February 27 special town meeting warrant would authorize town money to pay for the pole moving in case no other source is found, to at least allow the town to put out for bridge construction bids.

A National Grid line foreman met with an engineer from Stantec, the company that designed the bridge replacement, and they concluded that one pole needs to be moved closer to the road, to allow service from the bucket truck. That pole will require a push brace.

The change would be on private property, and National Grid does not have written, signed, and notarized permission, as required, from the homeowner. Gifford and fellow highway commissioner Phil Delorey spoke to the homeowner and have a verbal ok, but not the legal paper.

Selectboard member Dan Keller said National Grid should send the papers to the selectboard and then a board member can go in person to get them signed and notarized.

This project has been delayed for years, and Gifford asked what the time frame would be for the legalities to be cleared up. Bids need to be requested soon, so that work can start this summer when the water level is low. That part of Wendell Depot Road will be closed during construction.

A Complex Issue

Historic commissioners Lisa Hoag and Melinda Godfrey met the selectboard to bring up their concerns about an auction for logging

on state forest land west of Wickett Pond, near the junction of Brook and Carlton roads. The auction was scheduled for two days later. (See story, page A1.)

They have asked that the cutting be postponed a year to allow a survey of potentially sacred indigenous stone formations, and had a letter for board members to sign. Hoag said she brought up objections under the National Historic Preservation Act, and as a result, DCR seemed to fast track the start of logging, appearing not to adhere to jointly established guidelines.

Hoag said that an examination of the area that would identify and mark Native sites would have to wait until the snow cover is gone.

Keller and selectboard chair Christine Heard took some time to read the letter, and then Heard said that the board did not want to deal with such a complex issue on such short notice. Keller suggested that the historical commission could send the letter as written, and mention that the members had spoken with the selectboard.

Aging In Place

Council on Aging chair Nancy Spittle had two things to talk about. First, the Council hired Janice Doubleday to keep the senior center open 6 regular hours a week: 3 on Wednesdays and 3 on Fridays.

Doubleday would be there to answer the telephone, get medical supplies from the lending collection as residents need them, and start new programs. She plans to start new programs at the center. The supplies, and the center itself, are available for all Wendell residents.

Spittle's second piece of information was that the Council is recruiting for the Village Neighbors program, whose goal is to help people stay in their homes as they age.

Slippery Definitions

Kitchen committee members Mez Ziemba and Myron Becker brought the selectboard a fee schedule for use of the town hall kitchen independent of the rest of the town hall. Ziemba and Heard had developed that schedule, so the result was no surprise.

Becker pointed out that the fees are low, and everyone agreed. Becker also brought up some definitions that could be "slippery," but Heard said the document is a "starting point." Keller said that the selectboard will continue to be flexible and consider each use individually.

The kitchen coordinator will have to meet with potential kitchen users at least once before the first use, and will be responsible for making sure

that cleanup is thorough after each use. That responsibility should call for some payment.

Two Camperships

Town coordinator Nancy Aldrich reported that Mass Audubon has offered two Wendell children aged 11 to 14 camperships to its Wildwood outdoor exploration camp: one for the session that runs from July 8 to 14, and one for July 29 to August 4. The campers would have to pay only \$50 of the fee, which is over \$1,000.

Audubon owns large tracts of land in Wendell, and, as a non-profit organization, pays no property tax. Several years ago Audubon agreed to compensate the town with camperships rather than with money.

In prior years, only one camper-ship was offered, with the winner chosen through an essay contest on the subject "the importance of nature." Board members thought to continue the essay contest, but time is limited. The choice should be made by April 1, so the selectboard will have to decide who will go at its March 21 meeting.

Other Business

The Orange Oil delivery person has had a hard time reaching the fill pipe for the oil tanks at the town hall. Pam Harris asked if the town would be willing to build a step, and board members said it should be possible.

The energy committee asked for motion detectors to operate the town hall entrance lights, and for new light fixtures that would use LED lights inside the hall. The selectboard is not ready to act on those requests yet because there is still a good amount of fiscal year remaining, and not a good amount of money in the town building maintenance budget. The cost of the fixtures is more than the town budgeted.

The town broadband network will need a 9' by 16' concrete shed to hold electronics and switching. That shed is planned to go behind the office building, and a special permit application for it is in the planning board mailbox.

Deconstruction Works gave Wendell a \$20,000 quote for taking down the house at 97 Wendell Depot Road: \$17,100 for taking the building down, and \$2,900 for disposal. Local resident Tony Diemand expressed some interest in the building, and road crewmember Al Frost is interested in the metal frame found behind the building.

Board members signed appointment slips for Amy Palmer as energy committee clerk and Dvora Cohen as a member of the open space committee.



Partridge-Zschau Insurance

Receive a \$25 Amazon Gift Card for a Referral
Visit Us for More Details

25 Millers Falls Road
413-863-4331
www.pzinc.com/referrals

NOTES FROM THE WENDELL SPECIAL TOWN MEETING

... Town Funds Pole Job, Votes Against Any MLP

By JOSH HEINEMANN

Close to fifty Wendell citizens stayed for the entire two hours of a special town meeting on Tuesday evening, February 27. Before the meeting got underway, it was interrupted by a telephone call, a computer generated voice trying to sell insurance. The voice stopped talking only after one citizen got up, picked up the telephone, and hung it up.

Following the finance committee's recommendation, voters unanimously approved \$409.30 in bills of prior years, and a \$5,000 addition to the legal expense account.

A majority of voters went against the fin com recommendation and approved up to \$45,000 to move utility poles that would be in the way of the project to replace the bridge spanning Whetstone Brook in Wendell Depot. Road commissioners argued that the bridge project will be necessary, and Wendell will lose money already spent for the design if the bridge is not replaced. The \$45,000 figure is only a guess.

Fin com member Robin Heubel called the potential \$45,000 fee to move three poles "extortion." As chair of the conservation commission, she added that the pole relocation would need the con com's approval.

Article 6, which allowed the creation and appointment of a deputy moderator, passed unanimously. Article 7, which also passed unanimously, will empower the moderator to call the outcome of a vote that requires a 2/3 majority without a hand count, though a citizen may appeal that call.

Three articles needed for the creation of a community solar generating plant all passed.

As might be expected, the two

articles concerning broadband generated the most discussion. Article 11 was a citizen petition to elect a municipal light plant (MLP) board at the May 7, 2018 town election. The MLP would oversee operation of the town's fiber-optic internet when it is functioning. Article 12, submitted by the selectboard, would instead schedule that election at the May 6, 2019 town election.

The selectboard's rationale was that construction is still in its early stages, and electing that MLP in 2-½ months, with the design work still not complete, would be like switching horses midstream. The design work is not complete.

Neither article passed. All three selectboard members spoke, and voted against their own article.

Fin com chair Doug Tanner said that an MLP, as defined in MGL Chapter 164 Section 55, operates independently, without town supervision or transparency, but using hardware that the town paid for. He said there are other options for overseeing the broadband system, among them an enterprise fund. "We don't even know what the final options are," he said.

There is no job description for an MLP. If the need for an MLP comes quickly, there may be a special election – an extra town expense for sure, \$1,400 to \$2,500, but a small one in comparison to the cost of creating the network.

Selectboard member Dan Keller said that the Leverett MLP, run by three very knowledgeable people, works well. In Greenfield, the MLP cost the town \$5 million.

Having attended a meeting of area towns working toward broadband, citizen Lou Leland said that some towns that have created MLPs are having second thoughts.

PLACE YOUR BUSINESS CARD HERE (12 WEEK MINIMUM) CALL 863-8666!

Overwhelmed by stuff? Try Franklin County's Most Convenient

IN-TOWN SELF STORAGE

UPPER END OF WELLS STREET, GREENFIELD

413-883-7323

Easy in-town location
Secure 24-hour access

VARIETY OF SIZES THE BEST PRICES

OFFICE AT 50 CHAPMAN STREET, GREENFIELD, MA

Contractors, Flea Marketers, Tradeshow Vendors and Artists encouraged to inquire

COUTURE BROS.

Since 1910

Professional Painting & Decorating Contractor

Commercial • Residential • Industrial

"SERVING WESTERN MASS FOR OVER 100 YEARS"

www.couturebros.com

400 Avenue A Turners Falls, MA • 413-863-4346

413-256-6217

fine instruments bought and sold repaired and restored

Fretted Instrument Workshop

49 So. Pleasant St., Amherst, Mass. 01002

French King

Restaurant & Motel

OPEN BREAKFAST, LUNCH & DINNER
WEDNESDAY - SUNDAY 7 A.M.

EDWARDS TREE SERVICE

Mattew Edwards
Certified Arborist

Tree Climbing Specialist • Pruning And Removals
Stump Grinding • Practicing Fine Arboriculture

Residential / Commercial / Municipal

60 Ft. Aerial Lift • Brush Chipping
Fully Insured With Workers Comp. • Insurance and Liability

WWW.MATTEDWARDSTREE.COM

Wendell, MA

Serving Hampshire And Franklin Counties

413-325-7823 or 978-544-7452

Kristi A. Bodin, Esq. Call 413.549.3766
Attorney and Counselor at Law

LEGAL SOLUTIONS IN PLAIN ENGLISH, PC

Business Law • Liquor Licenses • Special Permits
Zoning & Land Use • Civil Litigation • Personal Injury (And more)

150 Fearing Street, Suite 19 • Amherst, MA 01002
Tel. 413.549.3766 • Fax 800.760.1225 • Cell 413-695-9848

KAB@LawyerAmherstMA.com • www.KABESQ.com
Twitter: @KABESQ • Facebook: @KABESQ

Celebrating 15 years as a resident of Montague, MA!

TFHS SPORTS from A1

fueled by aggressive passing and accurate foul shooting, and by the time the quarter ended, they were up 13-5. Powertown was also committing fouls themselves, but their five early fouls were shared by five players.

Turners' unanswered scoring streak continued into second quarter. In fact, it wasn't until 4:02 of the second when Pathfinder scored their next point. By then, the score was 23-6. The Pioneers managed to hit two more free throws to close out the half, but when the buzzer rang, Powertown was up 31-8.

Turners outscored the Paths 12-6 in the third to put the game out of reach, and put on the exclamation point with a 13-10 fourth.

Abby Loynd and Aliyah Sanders each scored 11 points for Turners. Both hit three field goals and five free throws.

Dabney Rollins, Maddy Chmyzinski and Chloe Ellis all scored 8, Hailey Bogosz put up 5 points, Ali Murphy and Emma Miner both scored 2-pointers, and Sarah Waldron added a free throw.

In the second round of the playoffs, Turners will host the number-9 Mount Everett Eagles of Sheffield. The game is at 7 p.m. on Thursday, March 1. If Turners wins that game, they go on to play the winner of the Monson/Lenox game. And if they don't, the seniors' storied schoolgirl careers will come to an end.



DAVID HOITT PHOTO



Turners Falls High School junior Cassidhe Wozniak races to the puck at Collins-Moylan Arena, Greenfield. The Green Wave team, which combines skaters from six area schools, battles Easthampton at 1:30 p.m. this Saturday in the Western Mass Division III-A semifinal at the Olympia Ice Arena, West Springfield.

Farmers: Optimize Yield and Quality of Forage

SOUTH DEERFIELD – Please join the UMass Extension Crop, Dairy, Livestock, & Equine team on Tuesday, March 6 for a multi-state collaborative event that focuses on innovations in sustainable forage production.

The event, “Strategies to Optimize Yield and Quality of Forage on Your Farm,” takes place from 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at the UMass Crop and Animal Research and Education Center, 89 River Road, South Deerfield.

Registration is free, and lunch will be provided. The event will feature presentations from several distinguished professors and professionals in the Northeast.

Featured topics include *Perennial Forage Variety Selection* (Dr. Heather Darby, UVM); *Double Cropping: Making Money on Both Ends* (Tom Kilcer, NY); *Managing Weeds in Pastures* (Dr. Sid Bosworth, UVM); *Estimates of MA Dairy Costs and Returns* (Dr. Dan Lass, UMass); *Understanding the Importance of Fiber Digestibility* (Rick Kersbergen, UMaine); *Get Your Planter Ready for No-Till* (Jeff Sanders, UVM);



Troubleshooting Corn After Cover Crops (Sam Corcoran, UMass); and *Forage Sorghum: The Other Corn Crop* (Tom Kilcer, NY).

Please RSVP if you plan on attending to ensure that the event runs smoothly! For questions or to RSVP, please contact Alexa Smychkovich at asmychko@umass.edu or (413) 545-5221.

Bulb Show Opens With Seed-Saving Lecture

NORTHAMPTON – A spectacular array of crocuses, hyacinths, narcissi, irises, lilies, tulips, and more will be in full bloom at the annual Bulb Show at Smith College's Lyman Conservatory.

Botanic Garden director Tim Johnson will give the opening lecture for the Bulb Show in the Campus Center Carroll Room on Friday, March 2 at 7:30 p.m. His topic is *Stories About Seeds*.

This lecture will be a journey through time, starting with the emergence of flowering plant lineage 125 million years ago. Learn about how the humble skill of seed saving al-



tered the course of human history and the crucial work being done today to preserve biodiversity and cultural identities in seed banks.

Following his lecture there will be a reception at the illuminated Lyman Plant House to celebrate the opening of the Spring Bulb Show.

The display runs Saturday, March 3 through Sunday, March 18, and is open to the public daily from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. On Fridays, Saturdays, and Sundays, the show is open until 8 p.m. The suggested donation is \$5.

The general public will be able to purchase bulbs on March 24 and 25. (Please bring your own flats or cardboard trays.)

The Botanic Garden is wheelchair accessible, and parking is available on College Lane for the two weeks of the Bulb Show. For more information, contact the Botanic Garden at (413) 585-2740 or visit the website at www.smith.edu/garden.

PLACE YOUR BUSINESS CARD HERE (12 WEEK MINIMUM). CALL 863-8666



Jeffrey Collura, D.M.D.
Cosmetic Dentistry

7 Burnham Street
Turners Falls, MA 01376
Telephone (413) 774-6553
TurnersFallsDental.com

Office Hours By Appointment

CEREC : SINGLE-VISIT DENTISTRY



magpie

- Pizzas
- Entrees
- Salads
- Full Bar & Patio

magpiepizza.com
21 Bank Row, Gld.
413-475-3570

woodfired pizzeria

IN GOOD COMPANY
A SKILLED ELDER COMPANION SERVICE

Offering focused attention, engaging activities, outings, and respite for caregivers.

sitalang@ingoodcompanynow.com
www.ingoodcompanynow.com
413-834-7569



Sita Lang
Hospice trained
CPR certified

Dennis L. Booska
Dennis L. Booska, Jr.

Phone & Fax
413-863-3690

Booska's Flooring

169 Avenue A, Turners Falls

Member
The Flooring Network.

Tile Lino Carpet

BLUE DRAGON APOTHECARY

CUSTOM CRAFTED HERBAL PRODUCTS
TRADITIONAL MEDICINES & HOLISTIC HEALTH
OFFERING BODYWORK AND CONSULTATIONS

RETAIL HOURS: TUE-FRI 10-6; SAT 10-4
413-773-3730, info@bluedragonapothecary.com
158 MAIN ST, SUITE 10 GREENFIELD, MA 01301
BLUEDRAGONAPOTHECARY.COM



Obear
CONSTRUCTION

413-367-6022
www.obearconstruction.com



**SHANAHAN CONSTRUCTION
SUPPLY CO. INC.**

SCSC "Rock solid service with level advice"

Complete Masonry Supply

Offering a complete line of pavers, wall stone, retaining wall block and more. 

298 Avenue A., Turners Falls 413-863-4322
and at our new location or 802-579-1800
529 S. Main St, Brattleboro www.shanahansupply.com

**TURN'S
LAWN CARE**

Landscape Design & Maintenance

Accepting New Snow Plowing Customers
(within 5 miles of Montague Center)

413.522.2563

www.TurnLawnCare.com

Geri Johnson, Realtor
ABR, CRB, CRS, GRI, SRES
413-863-9736 • Gerijohnson@Realtor.com

Don't settle for less
Choose a CRS (Certified Residential Specialist)

Only 4% of all REALTORS hold this prestigious designation. The CRS is my badge of expertise and your shield of assurance. Put your trust in the best to get the job done. Whether buying, selling or referring, always choose **GERI JOHNSON, CRS** 30 years of experience.



 66 French King Hwy., Gill
(413) 863-9736 • WWW.GJAR.COM

HEART & SOLAR
WORKER OWNED SOCIALLY RESPONSIBLE SINCE 2002



**311 WELLS STREET, SUITE B
GREENFIELD, MA 01301
413-772-8788
PVSQUARED.COOP
MA ELEC. LIC. A13764 MA HIC 140077**

Certified

Corporation

**Peter Waters Painting
Services**

Interior/Exterior
Custom Residential
Fully Insured

Office: 978-544-6534
Cell: 413-461-5172
Wendell, MA
peterjwaters88@gmail.com

SINCE 1888
A.H. Rist
INSURANCE
AGENCY, INC.

**Savings & protection for your
WHOLE FAMILY!**



Competitive rates & discounts for all of your insurance needs!
159 Avenue A | Turners Falls MA | 413.863.4373 | ahrist.com

GREAT FALLS HARVEST
fresh • local • creative

**Rich flavors from around the world
with a local state of mind.**

Thursdays - Fridays 5 to 9 PM
Saturdays 11 AM to 9 PM
Sundays 11 AM to 8 PM

Brunch Saturday & Sunday
11 AM to 3 PM

413-863-0023
50 Third Street
Downtown Turners Falls

Chasing our Tales: A Visitation of Wrath

By LYN CLARK

TURNERS FALLS –Not all of our ancestors lived lives that we, today, would consider admirable. Like it or not, among the saints were the scoundrels and ne’er-dowells, as well as some who, for a variety of reasons, we simply find unworthy of praise. We must accept their place on the family tree without cringing if we are to celebrate our more meritorious ancestors, all the while hoping that little of the former and more of the latter’s DNA found its way down the chain to us.

My nine-times great-grandfather Humphrey Atherton was born in England in 1608, and immigrated to New England in 1636. He was an early settler of Dorchester, Massachusetts, where he married Mary Wales, who bore him twelve children.

Atherton was an important gentleman of his time: representative to the General Court; assistant governor; and a member the Ancient and Honorable Artillery Company of Massachusetts, rising through the ranks from lieutenant to major-general. As a land speculator he was almost without equal, amassing a huge fortune in several towns.

He was also magistrate of the judiciary of the colonial government from 1654 until his death. He solemnized many weddings (among them Myles Standish, Jr. to Sarah Winslow), and had a great deal of power over criminal and civil matters. As senior military officer, he had the responsibility of subduing and controlling the Native tribes, and of apprehending criminals, such as those accused of heresy.

The latter, some have said, was his undoing. He was a Puritan, through and through, and inflex-

ible in the extreme. Atherton believed in witches and felt it to be a duty he owed to God and to his Country “to mete out to the poor creatures, against whom accusations were brought, the punishment which, in his opinion, they so richly merited.”

He was one of those instrumental in bringing about the conviction of Mrs. Ann Hibbons, a previously wealthy widow fallen on hard times, who was hanged for witchcraft on June 19, 1656.

Hibbons was the sister of Governor Bellingham, which doesn’t seem to have done her much good, and later fictionalized in Nathaniel Hawthorne’s *Scarlet Letter*. It was a strange case, and one that caused considerable guilt in those involved, although not, I daresay, in my ancestor. It seems that Hibbons’ general grouchiness after her husband’s death toward the ladies of her acquaintance was the primary motivating factor.

Many of Atherton’s historians held him in high esteem. Ebenezer Clapp, in his *History of Dorchester*, wrote that “[h]e had great experience and skill in his treatment of the Indians. He manifested much humanity and sympathy for their ignorant and degraded condition, but exercised great energy and decision of character when necessary.”

When the Narragansett Sachem, Pessicus, declared war against the Mohegan Sachem, Uncas, accusing him of giving away land to the colonists (practically the whole of Norwich, Connecticut as it turns out), the colonies fined Pessicus for causing the hostilities. He demurred, saying it was more than he could possibly pay.

Humphrey Atherton then went with twenty men, according to Samuel Arnold’s *History of Rhode Island*, and “forced his way, pistol in hand, into the wigwam, and,

seizing the Sachem by the hair, dragged him out, threatening instant death if any resistance was offered.” The fine was subsequently settled when Pessicus “gave a mortgage” (read: gave away) of all his lands to the commissioners of the Four Colonies.

So much for humanity and sympathy. Atherton himself received a 500-acre farm carved from those same lands for his part in the land grab.

Atherton was also involved in the persecution of the Quakers. First he arrested the Quaker Samuel Gorton and his followers in Warwick, Rhode Island. He also arrested another of my ancestors, as it happens, Robert Porter, a Quaker, and there are two incidents in

see **GENEALOGY** page B4

BOOK REVIEW

Our Beloved Kin: A Much-Needed Social History of King Philip’s War

By JEFF SINGLETON

FRANKLIN COUNTY – Lisa Brooks’ new study of King Philip’s War, *Our Beloved Kin*, has created quite a buzz in our region. This is a very good thing, partly because this book challenges some traditional accounts of the war; partly because it is great to see people in the area engaged in the study of history; and partly because the book coincides with the National Park Service-funded project to study the 1676 battle, or massacre, near what is now called Turners Falls.

The battlefield project has no doubt promoted interest in this book. The project has drawn a large audience to its monthly meetings at the Montague select-board room, and to its periodic public presentations at the Turners Falls High School. The popular reception to Brooks’ monograph may also be related to the activism of the Nolumbeka Project, which over the years has organized public events promoting a stronger understanding of Indigenous history and culture.

In studying the Great Falls Massacre/Battle, the lack of an Indigenous or Indian perspective has often been a major concern. In my view, Brooks’ book plays an important role in filling in that gap. Brooks uses a range of sources, and her own traditions as a Native American, to get at how this war was experienced by Indigenous people. Apparently she tromped through the hills and swamps of southern New England to strengthen her feel for that experience.

Much has been made of the author’s use of new sources to create a fresh perspective on the war. This is, for the most part, true. For example, while the idea that pressure on traditional Indian land was a major cause of the war is hardly new, Brooks’ detailed research on the colonial “deed game,” as she calls it, gives us a much stronger understanding of the process by which European land expropriation took place.

Brooks focuses heavily on two individuals who have

not received much attention in previous accounts of the war: the “Sankskwa” Weetamoo, and the Christian Indian James Printer (Nipmuc).

Weetamoo was a leader of Wampanoag settlements in the area of Pocasset, which straddled present-day southeastern Massachusetts and Rhode Island. Brooks portrays her as playing a leadership role as important as her brother-in-law Philip/Metacom. We follow her as she resists Plymouth land claims prior to the war; assumes a leadership role in the Indian armed resistance; travels through Narraganset and Nipmuc territory evading English troops; and is killed, back in southeastern Massachusetts, in 1676.

Weetamoo also served as the “mistress” of the captive Mary Rowlandson, whose captivity narrative became a bestseller in the eighteenth century and is widely studied today. Brooks spends an entire chapter on the Rowlandson’s captivity, with Weetamoo serving as a rather sharp contrast to the Puritan woman’s world view.

James Printer, a Nipmuc whose family converted to Christianity, attended the Harvard Indian College. He eventually served as typesetter for the college’s press, ironically setting the type for Rowlandson’s captivity narrative. During the war he briefly joined the insurgency, was captured by the brutal Puritan thug Samuel Mosely, accused of participating in attacks on English settlements, and found innocent by a Boston court.

Brooks uses the Printer biography to tell the history of the Christian Indians, as well as of the Harvard Indian school. She shows how the Indian converts combined Native traditions with Christianity to create a cultural blend, one strategy for surviving English colonialism. She also argues that the products of the Harvard Press, where James worked, show that “American literature from its origins was a bilingual, bicultural endeavor, using the linguistic skills of Wampanoag, Massachusetts, and Nipmuc natives.”

see **BELOVED** page B6



WEST ALONG THE RIVER

WHAT REALLY HAPPENED AT THE FALLS?: PHASE II

By DAVID BRULE

TURNERS FALLS – Layer by layer, we are peeling back the centuries of speculation, the incomplete and biased accounts about the tragedy perpetrated at the falls on May 19, 1676.

The Mashantucket Pequot Museum Research Team, hired by the Town of Montague under a grant funded by the National Park Service, has submitted its draft of the Phase II research and field archaeology conducted this past summer.

The draft was submitted to the Advisory Board overseeing this study, comprised of Historical Commissioners from Montague, Gill, Greenfield, Deerfield, and Northfield and tribal partners from the Historic Preservation Offices of the Wampanoag Tribe of Aquinnah, the Chaubunagungamaug Band of Nipmuck Indians, the Narragansett Indian Tribe, and the Elnu Abenaki.

The report, close to 200 pages long, combines results of the cutting-edge field archaeology done along 1.25 miles of the 6.5-mile-long battle zone, as well as careful parsing of principal primary sources to create a still-emerging portrayal of the sequence of events on that day in May, three hundred and forty-two years ago.

Lacking from those primary and secondary accounts are the Native voices from that time. The



An engraving from Jack Nook’s 1854 book “Fishing in New Hampshire.”

tribal consultants and partners in this study have lent their skills and oral histories in providing essential perspectives to the way this story is told. By reviewing and interpreting colonial records, court records, and first-hand accounts, both Native scholars and research team members have continued the work of drawing out what really happened.

I can only summarize here some of the more salient points covered in the research so far. The Phase I report is available on the Town of Montague website, and this Phase II report builds on that. I will direct *Montague Reporter* readers to the final Phase II report when it becomes available in a few months.

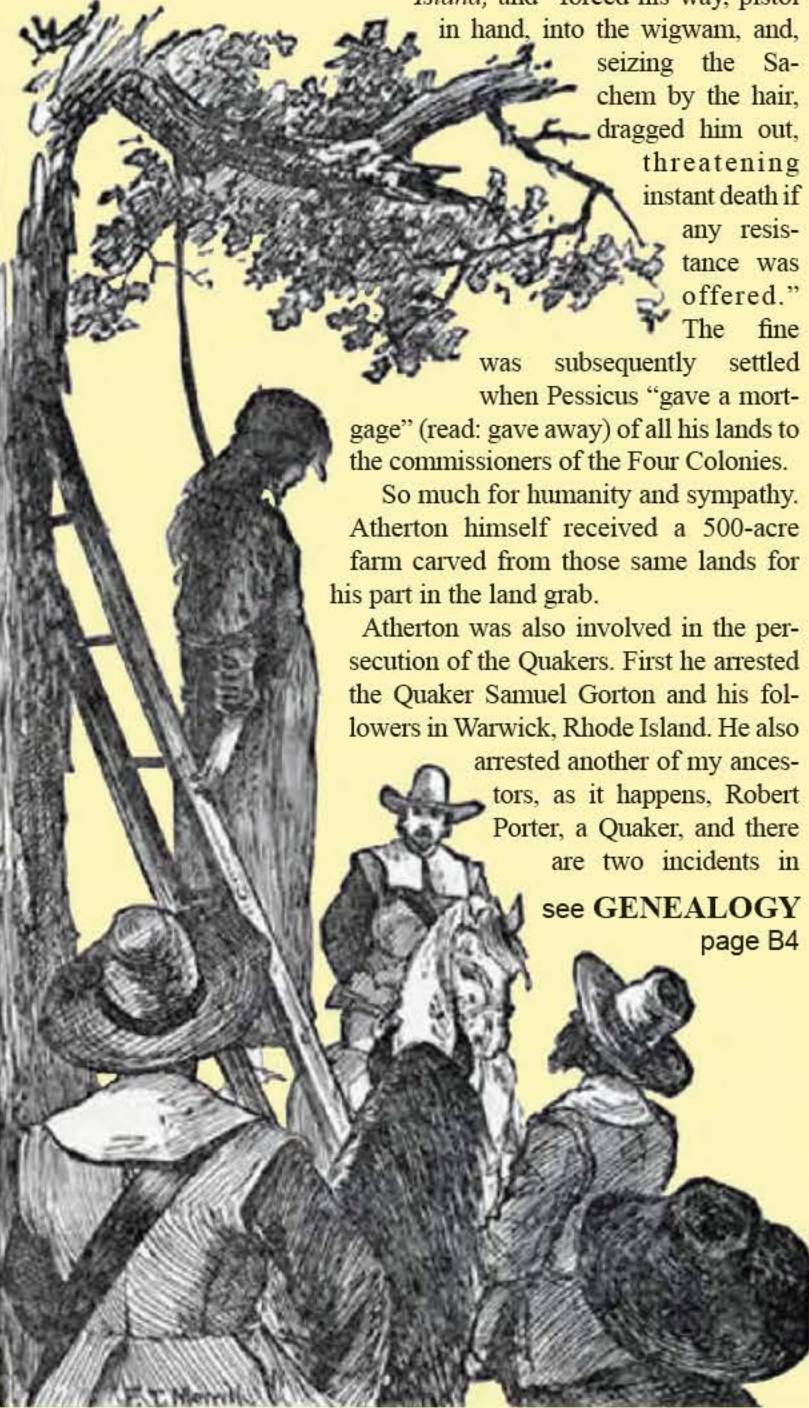
In the meantime, the following topics point to new information, or at least newer hypotheses that are

being proposed, explored and debated by the researchers, Historical Commissioners, tribal representatives, and local historians:

1. **Six Native villages**, not just the one at Peskeompskut. Thomas Reed, one of three English captives in the camp at the falls, is reputed to have told Turner and his officers about one camp at the falls, which was lightly protected. Reed may have escaped or he may have been released; either way, his information was faulty.

The research team has focused on the likelihood that there were actually *six* villages within a few miles of the falls, most with armed and battle-hardened Native soldiers. Reed’s underestimation would

see **WEST ALONG** page B4



Frank Thayer Merrill’s 1886 woodcut depiction of the execution of Ann Hibbons.

Pet of the Week

Khloe is an active, playful bunny and a two-time medalist in lupine teams-mixed curling, competing as a member of the Team USA Bunny Paralympics since she had a partial amputation of one of her hind legs following a fracture to the leg.

Fortunately, this old injury doesn't slow Khloe down a bit. This gregarious young lady welcomes petting in her quieter moments, and

relishes handouts of greens and other veggies. She has excellent litter-box habits and would love a home where she can enjoy freedom to explore and hang out with her people.

If you like a rabbit with personality and pizzazz, Khloe may be the one for you – come meet her today! Contact the Dakin Pioneer Valley Humane Society at (413) 548-9898 or at info@dpvhs.org.



KHLOE

Senior Center Activities MARCH 5 to 9

GILL and MONTAGUE

The Gill Montague Senior Center, 62 Fifth Street, Turners Falls, is open Monday through Friday from 9:00 A.M. to 2:00 P.M. Congregate meals are served Tuesday through Thursday at Noon.

Meal reservations must be made one day in advance by 11:00 A.M. All fitness classes are supported by a grant from the Executive Office of Elder Affairs. Voluntary donations are accepted.

Council on Aging Director is Roberta Potter. Kitchen Manager is Jeff Suprenant. For more information, to make meal reservations, or to sign up for programs call 863-9357. Messages can be left on our machine when the center is not open.

Tues–Thurs Noon Lunch
M, W, F 10:10 a.m. Aerobics;
10:50 a.m. Chair Exercise
Monday 3/5:
1 p.m. Knitting Circle
Tuesday 3/6:
10:15 a.m. Chair Yoga
12:45 p.m. COA Meeting
Wednesday 3/7:
9 a.m. Veterans’ Outreach
12:30 p.m. Bingo
Thursday 3/8:
9 a.m. Tai Chi
10:15 a.m. Chair Yoga
1 p.m. Cards & Games
Friday 3/9:
AARP Tax Prep by Appointment;
No Classes or Programs

LEVERETT

For information, contact the Leverett COA at (413) 548-1022, ext. 5, or coa@leverett.ma.us.

Flexibility and Balance Chair Yoga – Wednesdays at 10 a.m. at the Town Hall. Drop-in \$6 (first class free).

Senior Lunch – Fridays at

noon. Call (413) 367-2694 by Wednesday for a reservation.

ERVING

Erving Senior Center, 1 Care Drive, Erving, is open Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. for activities and congregate meals.

Lunch is at 11:30 a.m., with reservations required 2 days in advance. Call (413)-423-3649 for meal information and reservations.

For information, call Paula Betters, Senior Center Director, at (413) 423-3649. Transportation can be provided for meals, shopping, or medical necessity.

Call to confirm activities, schedule a ride, or find out about the next blood pressure clinic.

Monday 3/5: No Lunch Served
9:30 a.m. Healthy Bones
10:30 a.m. Tai Chi
Tuesday 3/6:
8:45 a.m. Chair Aerobics
10 a.m. Stretching & Balance
11:30 a.m. Homemade Lunch
1 p.m. Jeopardy Showdown
Wednesday 3/7:
8:45 a.m. Line Dancing
9:30 Blood Pressure
10 a.m. Chair Yoga
12 noon Bingo & Snacks
1 p.m. Veterans’ Guidance
Thursday 3/8:
8:45 a.m. Aerobics
10 a.m. Healthy Bones
12:30 p.m. Create 2 Donate
Friday 3/9:
9 a.m. Quilting Workshop
9:30 a.m. Fun Bowling
11:15 Music, Movement, Mayhem!

WENDELL

Wendell Senior Center is at 2 Lockes Village Road. Call Nancy Spittle, (978) 544-6760, for hours and upcoming programs. Call the Center for a ride.

MARCH LIBRARY LISTING

Weather, etc., sometimes causes changes in library events; you may want to call ahead to confirm.

Montague Public Libraries

Turners Falls: Carnegie (413) 863-3214
Montague Center (413) 367-2852
Millers Falls (413) 659-3801

Erving Public Library (413) 423-3348
Gill: Slate Library (413) 863-2591
Leverett Public Library (413) 548-9220
Wendell Free Library (978) 544-3559
Northfield: Dickinson Library (413) 498-2455

ONGOING EVENTS

1ST AND 3RD MONDAYS
WendellFreeLibrary:Community Music Ensemble Workshop with musician Doug Tanner. Learn music theory and chord structure while playing in an ensemble. 6:30 p.m. Donation.

EVERY TUESDAY
Leverett Library: *Spanish Conversation Group*, 4 to 5 p.m.; *Qigong with Dvora Eisenstein*. 5:15 to 6:15 p.m.

Wendell Free Library: *Adult Watercolor Art Group*. Call Rosie for details. 6 p.m.

2ND TUESDAYS
Dickinson Library: *I'd Rather Be Reading Group*. 7 p.m.

3RD TUESDAYS
Dickinson Library: *Genealogy Group*. 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.

EVERY WEDNESDAY
Wendell Free Library: *Sylvia's Awesome Play Group*, a sand table and lots of activities for newborn to 5 years old and their guardians, 10 to 11:30 a.m. *Healthy Bones & Balance for Seniors* with *Marianne Vinal*, 10 to 11 a.m. *Self Breema/Mindful Stretching with Luc Bodin & Trudy Smith*, 6 to 6:45 p.m.

Carnegie Library: *Homeschool Science. Hands-on STEM*. All age homeschoolers. 1 to 2:30 p.m.

Leverett Library: *Tales and Tunes Story Time w/Heleen Cardinaux*. 10:30 a.m. to noon. *Advanced Tai Chi class*. 1:45 to 2:45 p.m.

Dickinson Library: *Mucho Gusto Spanish* with Laurie Davidson. 6-week session ending March 21, for ages 0-5 and parents. Register with Rec dept. 1 to 1:35 p.m. \$ *Knit With Us*. All skill levels welcome. 6 to 8 p.m.

1ST WEDNESDAYS
Dickinson Library: *Reader's Choice*. Book discussion. 10 a.m.

2ND WEDNESDAYS
Dickinson Library: *Readings: Nonfiction, Fiction & Poetry* with Nick Fleck. 3 p.m.

EVERY THURSDAY
Carnegie Library: *Music & Movement* with Tom Carroll and Laurie Davidson. For children. 10 to 10:45 a.m.

1ST THURSDAYS
Dickinson Library: *Environment Awareness Group*. Discuss the monthly topic facilitated by Emily Koester. 6:30 p.m.

3RD THURSDAYS
Dickinson Library: *Rep. Paul Mark: Office Hours*. 1 to 4 p.m.

EVERY FRIDAY
Dickinson Library: *Story Hour*. Stories, crafts, music and movement with Dana Lee. Preschoolers and their caregivers, 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. *Kids' Friday*. When Northfield Elementary gets out early, come across the

street to the library. Sometimes we have a program, or just hang out, 2 to 3:30 p.m.

Leverett Library: *Senior Strengthening and Stretching* with Dr. Sward, last session on March 6. Please register. 11 a.m. to noon.

Wendell Free Library: *Yoga with Shay Cooper*. Intermediate level. 10 a.m. \$

1ST FRIDAYS
Leverett Library: *Movie Night*. 7:30 p.m.

EVERY SATURDAY
Wendell Free Library: *Adult Strength Training with Rosie Heidkamp*, 8:30 to 9:30 a.m. *AA Open Meeting*, 6 to 7 p.m.

Leverett Library: *Advanced Tai Chi*, 10 a.m. *Beginning Tai Chi*, 11 a.m.

1ST SATURDAYS
Carnegie Library: *Book Sale*. Books, dvds, cds, etc. \$1 or less. 10 to 1:45 p.m.

2ND AND 4TH SATURDAYS
Dickinson Library: *Food Pantry*. 11:30 to 2:30 p.m.

EVERY SUNDAY
Wendell Free Library: *Yoga*. Advanced beginning level. Donna Horn is the instructor for March. 10 a.m. \$. *AA Open Meeting*, 6 to 7 p.m.

EXHIBITS

In order to apply for a show, find applications on library websites.

Leverett Library Community Room: *Louise Minks*, paintings.

L'Engle. 10 to 11 a.m.

THURSDAY, MARCH 8
Leverett Library: *Lego Club*. 3:15 p.m.

FRIDAY, MARCH 9
Dickinson Library: *Kid's Friday*, animated movie *Coco*. 2 to 3:30 p.m.

SATURDAY, MARCH 10
Carnegie Library: *Life-Size Candyland!* Come play the biggest game of Candyland you have ever seen! For children of all ages and their caregivers. Refreshments. 10:30 a.m. to noon.

SUNDAY, MARCH 11
Leverett Library: Part 2 of the William Rathbun *Pen and Ink Workshop*. 1 to 2:30 p.m.

TUESDAY, MARCH 13
Dickinson Library: *How to Attract Birds to Your Own Backyard*. Presentation by Nick Fleck. Event co-sponsored by the Northfield Bird Club. 6:30 to 8 p.m.

Dickinson Library: *I'd Rather Be Reading Group*. This month's selection: *Just Mercy* by Bryan Stevenson. 7 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 14
Dickinson Library: *Pi(e) Day*. $\pi=3.14...$ Come eat pie and drink coffee with your neighbors. Call library for details.

Dickinson Library: *Readings: Nonfiction, Fiction & Poetry* with Nick Fleck. This month's choice: *The Odyssey*. 3 p.m.

FRIDAY, MARCH 16
Leverett Library: *Movie Night. In the Name of the Father*, with Daniel Day-Lewis, for St. Patrick's Day. 7:30 p.m.

SATURDAY, MARCH 17
Wendell Free Library: *Movie, The Time Machine*; 2002 version of H.G. Wells' classic novel. 7:30 p.m.

SUNDAY, MARCH 18
Leverett Library: *Story Slam with Steve Adams and Bruce Watson*. Sign up to tell true stories, 5 minute limit, or come to watch the fun. 3 to 5 p.m.

THURSDAY, MARCH 22
Leverett Library: *Ukulele Sing-Along* with Julie Stepanek. 7 to 8 p.m.

TUESDAY, MARCH 27
Dickinson Library: *Toilet Talk*. History and aesthetics of Japanese toilets, with Sharon Domier from UMass libraries. Over Japanese tea and cookies, you can tell your own stories of toilets you've seen in your travels. 6:30 p.m.

THURSDAY, MARCH 29
Wendell Free Library: *Creating Habitat for Native Pollinators* by landscape designer Tom Sullivan. Redesign your yard to help them flourish. 7 p.m.

PLACE YOUR BUSINESS CARD HERE (12 WEEK MINIMUM) CALL 863-8666!

B. RUBIN & SONS INC.

**COMPLETE AUTO REPAIRS**

Shocks • Tires • Batteries • Starters
Struts • Tune-ups • Brakes • Oil Change

194 MILLERS FALLS RD. • 413-863-2236

10% SENIOR DISCOUNT FREE ESTIMATES

MASS INSPECTION STATION: NO. 13051

"Home Town Auto Care - The Way It Used To Be"

**JP TIRE & AUTO**

Complete Quality Auto Care
147 2nd St.
Turners Falls, MA 01376
413 -863 - 5423

Foreign - Domestic - Tires - Diagnostics
Aftermarket Accessories - Installation

SALES • SERVICE • INSTALLATION
RESIDENTIAL • COMMERCIAL
DOORS & OPENERS

Devine Overhead Doors
Gerry Devine



106 West Street Hampshire: 586-3161
Hadley, MA. 01035 Franklin: 773-9497

OUT OF THE PARK: March 2018

By JON DOBOSZ

UNITY PARK – Hello everyone! If you’ve absolutely had it with this winter, then you can take comfort in knowing that our spring programs are right around the corner! I have a few of those offerings to mention below, but before I do, we still have some unfinished business with regards to a couple of our winter programs...

Our **Open Swim Program** continues at the Turners Falls High School pool on Tuesday and Friday evenings through March 9. Family Swim is held from 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m., and Adult Lap Swim from 7:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Log onto our webpage at *montague.net* for daily rates and other info.

The **Springfield Thunderbirds Game**, as a reminder, will be played on Saturday, March 10 when they take on the Utica Comets at the MassMutual Center in Springfield.

The puck drops at 7:05 p.m., and this is the “Pink in the Rink Game” that helps fight the battle against Breast Cancer. Tickets are \$17 per for Montague residents and \$3 from each ticket goes to MPRD! Contact us now, as the deadline is Monday, March 5.

Switching over to spring, let’s start with **Peter Cottontail’s EGGstravaganza!** This great community tradition is planned for Saturday, March 31 at 1 p.m. and will be held at Unity Park. The EGGstravaganza will include pictures with Peter Cottontail, a bunch of raffles, and The Egg Hunt (geared towards 4- through 12-year-olds) with approximately 5,000 candy and toy-filled eggs strewn throughout the park. Participants must bring their own basket or bag for the eggs.

We would like to thank our co-sponsors: the Montague Elks, Le-tourneau Plumbing, and Greenfield Savings Bank. However, more co-sponsors are needed, so help spread the word. We have a snow postponement date of Saturday, April 14.

Any talk of spring must include our **Tee Ball program!** Tee Ball is for children ages 4 to 6, and please



note that a child must be at least 4 years of age before the start date of the program. Tee Ball starts April 21, and is held Saturday mornings from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. Our early bird registration fee is \$35 for Montague residents and \$40 for non-residents. The last day of early bird rates is Friday, March 23 after which there is a \$5 fee increase.

For our slightly older ballplayer, we have our **Rookie League Baseball** for kids ages 7 to 9. This will also be held Saturday mornings from 9 to 10:30 a.m. starting April 21. This is a coach-pitch program, where players play one another in intra-squad games. Fees are \$40 for Montague residents, and \$45 for non-residents.

When it comes to softball we have **The Purple Panthers** for girls ages 7 to 9. The program goes from early April through mid June, with games and practices being held weekdays and some Saturdays. Fees are \$65 for Montague residents and \$70 for non-residents. This is also a coach-pitch program.

For girls ages 10 to 12 we offer **The Diamond Dusters**. Similar to the Purple Panthers, the Diamond Dusters are members of the Greenfield Girls Softball League. This program is also held from early April to mid-June, with practices and games being held weekdays and some Saturdays. Fees are \$80 for Montague residents and \$85 for non-residents.

That’s about it from here. For additional information on our programs, contact us at 863-3216, log onto our webpage at *montague.net*, or check out our Facebook page. Talk to you next month!

Jon Dobosz, CPRP, is director of parks and recreation for the town of Montague.

3/3: Full Moon Coffeehouse

WENDELL – Don’t miss this opportunity to see Viva Quetzal, a multicultural musical treasure! Viva Quetzal is a high-energy musical group, with members from North and South America, recorded by Putamayo and nationally revered.

Performing an eclectic mixture of traditional South American folk and pop, the 7-member ensemble plays a fascinating array of over thirty instruments, including pan

pipes, flute, saxophone, cuatro, charango, harmonica, congas, piano and more. Influenced by the music from members’ homelands of Venezuela, Cuba, Chile, and Panama.

This Saturday, March 3 at 7:30 p.m. at the Full Moon Coffeehouse, Old Town Hall, Wendell. Sliding scale \$6 to \$15 benefits the Community Network for Children. For more information see *www.wendellfull-moon.org* or call (978) 544-8784.

MONTAGUE COMMUNITY TELEVISION NEWS

This Week at MCTV

By ABIGAIL TATARIAN

It doesn’t seem like March is coming “in like a Lion” this year, does it? Do you think the weather will stay this mild until spring arrives? It’s very friendly weather for filming around town. This week, take a look at the latest from Montague TV at *montaguetv.org/p/76/Latest-Videos*, and look out for great programming

on your local TV channel 17.

Is there something going on you’d like others to see? If you get in touch, we can show you how easy it is to use a camera and capture the moment.

Contact us at (413) 863-9200, *infomontaguetv@gmail.com*, or stop by 34 Second Street between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m., Mondays through Fridays. We’re excited to work with you!

HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE MONTAGUE POLICE LOG

Meeting The Neighbors; Raising A Stick; Dumping Shingles; Reflecting On Life

Thursday, 2/15

11:49 a.m. Report from Park Street of smoke alarms going off throughout two-family home. Caller believes she can smell natural gas. TFFD responding.

2:33 p.m. Caller from L Street reporting a smell of propane in her apartment; states she cannot smell it in the hallway of the building. TFFD responding.

4:35 p.m. Report of possible single car accident off Route 63/Reservation Road. Female sitting outside the vehicle wrapped in a blanket. Officer advises vehicle spun around on icy road and is about 75 feet off of Route 63. Operator has already spoken with Sunderland officer and is waiting for AAA.

5:56 p.m. Caller from Fourth Street reports that when he returned home, a male and a female were in front of his residence. Female asked if caller lived on second floor, and when caller asked why she was asking, she said she was just curious. Parties then walked between some of the houses on Fourth Street off the alley and are now back in front of caller’s residence. Officer spoke with parties; they are neighbors and were attempting to meet their neighbors.

Sunday, 2/18

8:54 p.m. Caller states that a juvenile texted caller’s thirteen-year-old daughter and threatened to stab her. Officer advised caller of options.

Monday, 2/19

12:15 a.m. Laptop reported stolen on Third Street.

10:26 a.m. Report of guard arm malfunctioning at Lake Pleasant Road railroad crossing. Arm keeps coming up and down repeatedly without a train coming. Train passed through a short time ago but cleared the area before the malfunction started. Call placed to Pan Am Railways, who advised they would send someone to check on the issue.

12:40 p.m. 911 call reporting two-car accident at Lake Pleasant and Green Pond roads. No injuries, smoke, fluids, or airbag deployment. Vehicles able to operate under their own power. Report taken.

1:51 p.m. Caller reports that two small dogs followed her up Prospect Street and one of the dogs bit her on the side of her knee, breaking the skin. After the incident, the dogs took off the opposite way on Prospect Street. Located possible owners on Prospect and L streets; if dogs are one of those possible matches, they are all up to date on

rabies vaccinations. Caller declined medical attention. Copy of call left for animal control officer.

Tuesday, 2/20

11:27 a.m. Caller reporting erratically operated vehicle; advises operator did an illegal U-turn on Avenue A and almost struck the caller while caller was crossing the street. Vehicle last seen on Avenue A approaching Cumberland Farms.

[REDACTED] was arrested on a straight warrant.

12:18 p.m. Caller reports hearing gunshots coming from a wooded area along East Mineral Road. Referred to Environmental Police.

Wednesday, 2/21

10:12 a.m. 911 caller from J Street reporting that a “homeless man” in ragged clothing is threatening people with a stick. Involved male states he raised a stick but was not threatening anybody. Party advised of potential consequences if this happens again.

12:47 p.m. Caller from Second Street states that there are three or four needles in her front yard. Items retrieved.

1:35 p.m. 911 caller from Eleventh Street states that a client of his is acting erratically and blocking him from leaving in his van. Officer cleared caller from scene and is standing by with involved female.

3:40 p.m. Report of illegal dumping on Cemetery Road. Caller observed approximately ten contractor bags filled with asphalt shingles dumped over an embankment. Caller did not see who dumped bags. Investigated; report taken.

5:29 p.m. Caller from Avenue C reports that there is a chicken in his front yard. Caller asked several neighbors; no one knows who it belongs to. Advised caller that animal control officer would follow up tomorrow when he is back on duty.

Thursday, 2/22

11:24 a.m. Caller from Davis Street believes that someone broke into his home through the back door

overnight. Investigated.

11:37 a.m. Caller states they can see two kids playing on the ice over the river near the old bridge abutments. Officer spoke to kids and advised them of the hazard. They said they would not go back out there.

4:57 p.m. Report of vandalism at McCarthy Funeral Home; projectile was thrown through a second floor window, penetrating the screen and breaking both panes of glass. Referred to an officer.

9:08 p.m. Caller from Fifth Street reporting young teenage children causing a disturbance in an alley behind her house; states youths are jumping in and out and around a dumpster used by United Arc. Area checked; no one found.

11:16 p.m. Caller reporting suspicious vehicle parked in St. Mary’s cemetery. Vehicle has been there for some time; parking lights are on. Officers out with vehicle; clear; nothing wrong. Party is there reflecting on life.

Friday, 2/23

2:49 a.m. Officer out with male walking with two large plastic trash bags near Scotty’s. Male walking his cans down to Food City as he normally does. Officer advised for no extradition warrant out of Nashville, TN.

12:07 p.m. Caller requests to have on record that he received a scam call from a belligerent salesperson trying to convince him to bundle his phone, cable, internet, and heating oil together.

6:54 p.m. Caller from Federal Street reporting that his neighbor is riding a Bobcat going into the street and up on the sidewalk, causing a hazard and a lot of noise. Officer advised. Unable to locate.

8:18 p.m. Caller from L Street reporting that a female was just at her door and attempted to open it, then rang the doorbell. Caller states that her son talked to the female, who asked if anyone had a black Lab. Caller found it very suspicious. Believes

female is on foot; unknown direction of travel. Area checked; unable to locate.

Saturday, 2/24

3:55 a.m. 911 caller reporting car into telephone pole at Turners Falls and Old Greenfield roads. Lines down. MedCare advised and en route; Shelburne Control advised for MCFD. Officer advises operator is out and uninjured. Pole is completely severed at bottom. Turners Falls Road shut down to Swamp Road. Eversource en route. Summons issued for operating to endanger, speeding, and marked lanes violation.

11:49 a.m. Greenfield PD received open line 911 cell call; only background noise sounded like someone walking around. GPD obtained subscriber info from phone carrier (Sprint). Billing info in Athol; phone plotted in vicinity of a Third Street residence. IMC and social media search yielded possible address on Fourth Street. Units advised. Officer made contact at Fourth Street address; confirmed accidental dial.

12:02 p.m. Caller reports that a male is yelling at people near the Pizza House and trying to solicit money for beer. Gone on arrival; will be on lookout.

Sunday, 2/25

5:58 a.m. Officer advising road conditions are slippery in Turners Falls. DPW advised.

1:06 p.m. Caller from Wendell Road reports that her power went out, then she saw smoke in the vicinity of a pole in front of her residence. TFFD advising tree on primary line; contacting utility company.

6:24 p.m. Caller reporting highly intoxicated male party on Avenue A screaming down the street. Officer searched area on foot; unable to locate.

Monday, 2/26

1:25 a.m. Caller states that there was a vehicle parked in front of Scotty’s with someone dressed in black inside of it. Area checked; nothing found.

MONTAGUE CRYPTOJAM !!!

GUAAM ZB LRC

BLUSTER’B GUABL DUZBUP.

- THWACK PUNCH

CRACK THE CODE? SEND YOUR ANSWER TO: MONTAGUEREPORTER@GMAIL.COM

PLACE YOUR BUSINESS CARD HERE (12 WEEK MINIMUM). CALL 863-8666

Brian R. San Soucie
Locksmith - CRL
certified - bonded - insured

863-2471
28 Montague St
Turners Falls, MA

Trusted for over 25 years, installing all types of
locks & entry devices for business & homes

- Dead BOLTS
- Household Lock Sets
- Master Keys & Re-keys
- Safe Combinations Changed

Rau's Auto

COMPLETE AUTO REPAIR

(413) 367-2475

531 Turners Falls Rd. Montague

24 hour emergency towing
Best service licensed Mechanics

INTEGRATIVE ACUPRESSURE
REIKI T.A.T. REFLEXOLOGY
CLINICAL ACUPRESSURE
POSITIONAL RELEASE THERAPY
TONG REN THERAPY
No Needles/Fully Clothed

Janet Masucci, ABMP, NCTMB 413-863-8694
Nationally Certified Bodyworker since 1993

Helpful for: Aches & Pains, Allergies, Anxiety,
Arthritis, Boosting Immunity, Depression, Headaches
Insomnia, Low Energy, Stiffness, Stress, & more...

WEST ALONG from page B1

prove costly, and in many cases fatal, to the colonial attackers.

There was the Peskeompskut camp at the falls, where mostly non-combatants were living, but there were also other camps: one on the opposite southern bank, where Unity Park is now located; a camp in the area now known as Cheapside; one on either Smead or Rawson Islands; one east of the Deerfield Meadows; and one upriver from the falls, possibly at the mouth of the Millers River.

It is unclear why Turner chose the falls camp to attack, although it had been a typical English strategy to attack and decimate camps of women and children, to break the reproductive generation cycle, and to strike at the morale of the indigenous people. But that ill-advised decision determined the approach and retreat routes of the colonials, rendering them particularly vulnerable to a counter attack by an overwhelming Native force coming from the other camps.

2. New defining features. According to the report, “a defining feature may be any feature mentioned in battle accounts or on historic maps.” Obviously the rivers, fords, swamps, the six villages, the islands, the footpaths are all in this category. However, based on the presence and distribution of battle-related objects found by the team, they were able to find additional defining features heretofore not included in historic accounts.

One feature is what the team calls the “Mountain Gap”: a narrow northwest-southwest gap thirty yards long and ten yards wide. Although no mention is made in the historical narratives, the team recovered over 50 small-diameter musket balls that were likely fired by Natives at a group of English as they retreated through this gap, fleeing to the west.

Other closely studied features include the terraces overlooking the Falls River, the swales leading from lower to upper Factory Hollow, White Ash Swamp, and the terrace overlooking the Deerfield ford. Each of these features, not mentioned in primary sources, was identified this past summer through extensive fieldwork and the recovery of battle-related objects, especially the high number of musket balls.

3. Recovery of battle-related objects. The archaeologists surveyed 1.5 miles of the 6.5 miles of the battlefield. They recovered 284 lead musket balls, and another 91 objects of both domestic and military origin. The report catalogs each of the recovered musket balls, listing especially their diameter – which helps in educated guessing about who fired the shot, Native or colonial – and in what direction they were fired.

The team admits the difficulty in interpretation that arises, given the variety of patterns and distribution of the recovered musket balls. In fact, both sides used similar small arms, and similar ammunition loads, and neither side was equipped with any particular type of favored weapon. The origins of the weapons themselves could be of French, English, or Dutch provenance, and weapons recovered by Native combatants from earlier battles could confuse the issue even further.

In some instances, musket balls embedded in the west bank of the swales in Factory Hollow would nevertheless clearly indicate the heavy firing by Native forces into

T-RUMP



GENEALOGY from page B1

particular that the Quakers have written about in relationship to Atherton: first is the case of Mary Dyer, a Quaker who was hanged in 1660 after returning to Boston despite banishment.

Atherton was assistant governor at the time, and at her hanging he was said to have remarked, “She hangs there like a flag.” The Quakers understood this comment to be an insulting boast. Wenlock Christison was the last Quaker in Massachusetts to be sentenced to death by Atherton, but before he could be hanged he was released and banished from the colonies; a mandate from Charles II granting tolerance to all religious sects arrived in the nick of time.

During his trial, Christison prophesied Atherton’s untimely death. Henry Wadsworth Longfellow recreated the Christison trial in his play *John Endicott*, which included the damnation of Atherton by the accused.

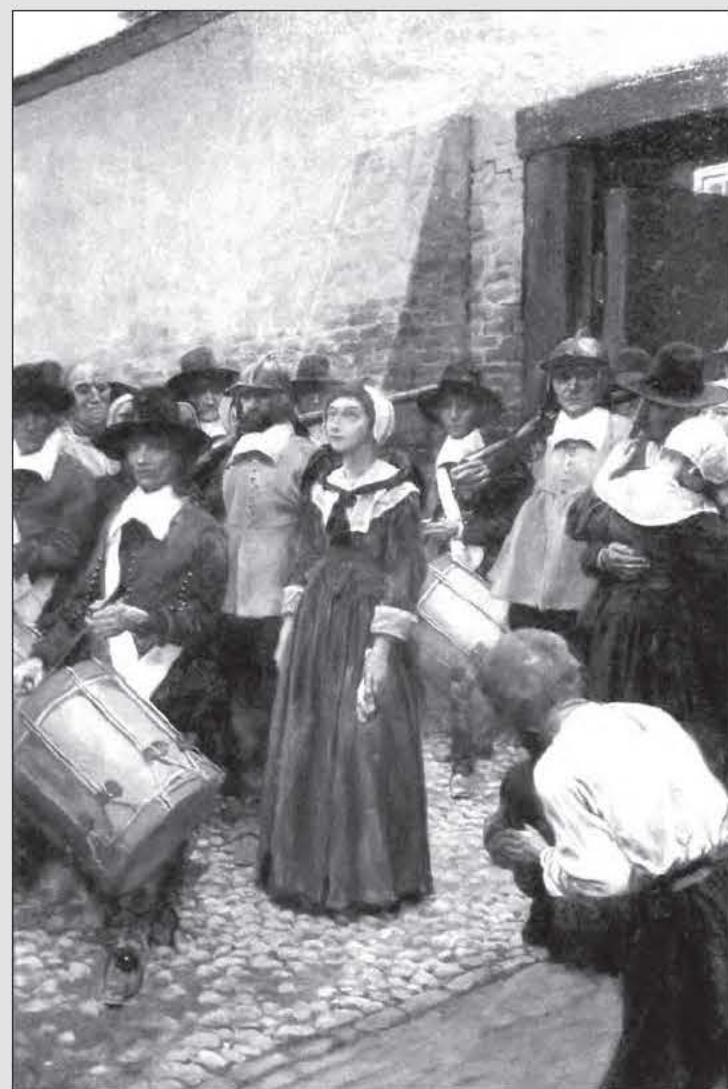
It wasn’t six months later, on September 16, 1661, that Christison’s prophesy bore fruit. If you are of a squeamish nature, you should probably skip the next paragraph. Harlow E. Woodward, in his *Epitaphs from the Old Burying Ground in Dorchester*, writes, “They [the Quakers] believed Atherton’s horrible death to be God’s

visitation of wrath.”

Joseph Besse, a Quaker author, wrote: “He was returning home in the evening, near the place where they usually loosed the Quakers from the cart after they whipped them, when his horse, suddenly affrighted, threw him with such violence, that he instantly died; his eyes being dashed out of his head, and his brains coming out of his nose, his tongue hanging out of his mouth, and the blood running out of his ears. Being taken up and brought to the Courthouse, the place where he had been active in sentencing the innocent to death, his blood ran through the floor, exhibiting to the spectators a shocking instance of the Divine vengeance against a daring and hardened persecutor; that made a fearful example of that divine judgment, which, when forewarned of, he had openly despised, and treated with disdain.”

Well... what can I say? It’s the rare extended family that doesn’t have one or two members they find it best to ignore, or only include in family gatherings with a sense of foreboding.

I have many more ancestral tales, but would very much like to publish some of yours! Please email us at: genealogy@montaguereporter.org.



Howard Pyle’s 1906 painting, Mary Dyer Being Led To The Scaffold.

the rear of the colonial forces fleeing up the swales to the west towards White Ash Swamp and Cherry Rum Brook, following their path of arrival, and now retreat.

4. Native strategies and tactics. Because of the lack of Native voices in the primary accounts, it is difficult to determine Native strategies without extrapolating them implicitly from what the narratives of the battle show. Based on the flow of the battle and counterattack, it can be assumed that the Natives knew the terrain far better than the colonials.

The English militia had no personal knowledge of the terrain, and only two guides accompanied the 150 dragoons. It has been reported that one of the more famous survivors, Jonathan Wells, 16 years of age at the time, had never been more than 3 miles north of his Hatfield home.

Kevin McBride’s research team surmises that the Native soldiers of the six villages had an excellent grasp of the terrain and knew where to ambush the Turner contingent at specific chokepoints. The Native forces were able to anticipate the crucial escape track and effectively counterattack, killing or mortally wounding up to 45% of the colonials.

In the broader scope of the King Philip’s War, historical evidence as interpreted demonstrates that the Native coalition pursued well-defined strategies and well-coordinated attacks, often with members of a number of different tribes par-

ticipating.

The coalition in the western theater of this war involved Pocumtuck, Norwottock, Narragansett, Nipmuck, Abenaki, Wampanoag, Pennacook, and many others.

Philip himself has of course emerged as a central figure in this conflict, but in fact there is no evidence that he was ever present on the battlefield in the war named after him! Rather, the evidence points to his role as a planner, diplomat, and procurer of supplies and weapons, a central figure to implementing broader goals.

The military arm of the coalition had very capable leaders about whom ironically we hear much less than Philip: Matoonas, said to be the greatest military strategist on either side, Sagamore Sam, Canochet, Quaipen, Mattawomp and Tuspaquin.

5. Stephen Williams’ notebook. If you grew up in this Valley, you will remember Stephen Williams as the “Boy Captive of Old Deerfield” in the fictionalized story of his capture in the Deerfield Raid of 1704. Stephen spent several years among his captors, then was ransomed and returned to the Valley. He became a pastor and lived out his life in our region.

Williams interviewed a number of men who were present at the Falls Fight, including Jonathan Wells, who by the time of the 1731 interview was a man in his seventies. He also interviewed a number

of Native soldiers who had participated in the Fight.

We are incredibly fortunate that Dr. Peter Thomas of Deerfield has transcribed for the first time the Williams interviews and personal stories, just this past August. He writes, “*Stephen Williams’ Notebook compiled in 1732 from accounts by active participants provides the foundation for all later accounts of the Falls Fight. It is the most compelling source of detailed information about this specific event...*”

These firsthand accounts are invaluable for the research team, who often reference this notebook in their report. The interviews are among the very few eyewitness accounts of the massacre and counter-attack of May 19, 1676.

The work by Dr. Thomas is entitled “*An Analysis and Transcription of Reverend Stephen Williams Notebook (1731/32) containing an account of the Falls Fight of May 19, 1676 from first-hand sources and Jonathan Wells’ personal story of his escape from the Indians and return to Hatfield*” (Williams Family Papers, Pocumtuck Valley Memorial Association, Deerfield, MA).

The victors may have written the histories of this single most important historical event to have happened in this Valley, but new attention, new research, and new voices are uncovering perspectives and generating fresh speculation about this enduring tragedy at the Falls.


Many of us no longer accept the

simplistic “cultural clash” theories which maintain that the indigenous peoples were destined to fade from the landscape. By delving deep into the case study of the tragedy at the Falls, we can discern more sinister forces at work, indeed beyond the simplistic trope that the white settlers were defending themselves against savage, raiding tribes.

Beyond the scope of the battlefield study, some will turn to seeking the answers to why this happened. Who among the three colonial powers of the time – Plymouth, Massachusetts Bay, and Connecticut – was benefiting from creating a “just war” to claim indigenous lands and indigenous slaves? How inevitable were the epidemics that decimated up to 90% of certain tribes? And closer to home, in whose interest were these 300 non-combatants killed at the Falls?

These are questions beyond the scope of the battlefield study; other scholars and activists will continue to pursue analysis and answers to add to a more complete picture.

The Town of Montague and the Advisory Board have applied for another round of funding to continue the archaeological fieldwork. The intent is to focus on the remaining areas of the 7-mile battle zone, and further refine the data already mined in the archives. We will receive word of an additional grant funding in a few months.

This story is to be continued... 

PLACE YOUR BUSINESS CARD HERE (12 WEEK MINIMUM). CALL 863-8666

Pipione's

SPORT SHOP

- Fishing supplies; Live bait
- Fishing & Hunting Licenses
- Paintball & CO₂ Refills
- Guns & Ammo

Open 7 am 7 days a week

101 Ave A, Turners 414.863.4246



Authentic American Food & Drink
at the Montague Bookmill

THEALVAHSTONE.COM • 413.367.5345 • OPEN 7 DAYS + NIGHTS



**Safer
Debit
Card**

FREE ID Theft
Recovery Coverage*

*GCB-NCB automatically provides Fully Managed Identity Fraud Recovery services FREE to our primary consumer checking account holders through ID SafeChoice. Visit any location for complete details or online at BestLocalBank.com

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

ONGOING EVENTS: EVERY SUNDAY

McCusker's Co-op Market, Shelburne Falls: *Celtic Sessions*. Musicians, all levels, traditional Irish music. 10:30 a.m.

Rendezvous, Turners Falls: *TNT Karaoke*. 9 p.m.

FIRST SUNDAY MONTHLY

Green Fields Market, Greenfield: *Co-op Straight-Ahead Jazz*. Balcony. Afternoons.

EVERY MONDAY

Greenfield Harmony Spring Session. No auditions. 6:45 p.m. Contact mcbass@vermontel.net for location and details.

2ND AND 4TH MONDAYS

Rendezvous, Turners Falls: *Scotty K's Open Mic*. 8 p.m.

EVERY WEDNESDAY

Carnegie Library, Turners Falls: *Story Time*: Stories, projects, and snacks for young children and their caretakers. 10:15 a.m.

Leverett Library, Leverett: *Tales and Tunes Story Hour*. Ages 0 to 5 and caregivers. 10:30 a.m.

1ST AND 3RD WEDNESDAYS

The Perch (4th floor), Greenfield: *Creacion Latin Big Band & Late Night Open Mic Jam*. 20 piece ensemble play son, salsa, chacha and much more. 8 p.m. Free.

EVERY THURSDAY

Carnegie Library, Turners Falls: *Music and Movement with Tom Carroll & Laurie Davidson*. Children and their caregivers. 10 to 10:45 a.m.

1ST AND 3RD THURSDAYS

Hubie's Tavern, Turners Falls: *Open Mic Night*, 7 p.m.

2ND AND 4TH THURSDAYS

Hubie's Tavern, Turners Falls: *Karaoke Night*, 8 p.m.

EVERY THIRD THURSDAY

Tilton Library, S. Deerfield: *Book Discussion*. 6:30 p.m.

EVERY FRIDAY

Hubie's Tavern, Turners Falls: *Acoustic Country with Heath Lewis*, 9 p.m.

EVERY THIRD FRIDAY

Arms Library, Shelburne Falls: *Open Prose and Poetry Reading*. Arrive early to sign up for 5 to 10 minute slots. 7 p.m.

Element Brewing Company, Millers Falls: *Brule's Irish Band*. 6 p.m.

EXHIBITS:

Art Garden, Shelburne Falls: *Great and Small*. Community art exhibit about the creatures we love. Reception March 2, 6 p.m. Through April.

Greenfield Gallery, Greenfield:

"Green Houses in the Connecticut River Valley of Massachusetts," by Peter Alan Monroe. Photographs of houses by Monroe, who grew up in Queens, NY and moved to western Massachusetts in the 1970s. Through March 31.



Folk singer/songwriter Lari Collins will perform at the March 9 Great Falls Coffeehouse at the Discovery Center in Turners Falls. Collins has been performing, writing and recording for over 40 years, earning international acclaim for her music. Her repertoire, accompanied on tenor ukulele and banjo, ranges from original and traditional folk songs and American standards to bossa nova in the original Brazilian Portuguese. Concert at 7:30 p.m., suggested donation \$6 to \$10 to benefit the Friends of the Great Falls Discovery Center.

Hawks & Reed, Greenfield: *Rodney Madison*. Recent work by local painter with an exuberant style. Through April.

Hope and Feathers Gallery, Amherst. *Spring in the City: Urban Landscapes* by painter Mishael Coggeshall-Burr of Montague. Through March. Opening reception Thursday, March 1.

Leverett Library, Leverett: *Pot-pourri Paintings* by artist Louise Minks of Leverett. Through March.

Nina's Nook, Turners Falls: *Slice of Humanity*. Five artists: depicting the human figure in unique portraits: Robert Bent, Suzanne Conway, Lauren Paradise, Nina Rossi and Jeff Wrench. Through March.

Old Mill Inn, Hatfield: *Holland Hoagland: Seeing the Figure*. Sculpture in wood and stone by Hatfield Sculptor. Presentation March 7, 7 p.m. Through March 9.

Salmon Falls Gallery, Shelburne Falls: *Recent Work: Artspace Pastel Studio*. Artists from Rebecca Clark's pastel studio exhibit work with their mentor in the pastel medium. Reception March 3, 4 p.m. Through April.

Salmon Falls Gallery, Shelburne: *Our Vanishing Wild Wa-*

tercolor portraits by Maureen Moore of endangered species. Reception March 3, 4 p.m. Through April.

Shelburne Arts Coop, Shelburne Falls: *Sweet*. Member's exhibit with work on a "sweet" theme. Glass, fiber, ceramics, wood, paint etc. Through March.

Whately Library, Whately: *Winter Light: Art Exhibit*. Handmade paper scrolls and origami lanterns by Sheryl Jaffe in the Muse Cafe. Through March 24.

CALL FOR ART:

Resist Art Show, Brattleboro: A call for art that reflects on the current political situation. Stand up and express your hopes, your outrage, your vision, in the face of the times we are living through. Open to all mediums, including writing (one page maximum and presented as visually engaging) that can be wall-hung. Exhibit to be in May 2018 at the River Garden. An opening reception will take place May 4, Gallery Walk Friday. Artists may submit a maximum of two pieces of wall art, no more than 36" by 36". Jury fee of \$20 is due with the application by March 15. All work must be submitted digitally. To receive an entry form, further details: resistartists2018@gmail.com.

EVENTS:

THURSDAY, MARCH 1

Hawks & Reed, Greenfield: *Wiki, Eratt, Wiki Good*. 8:30 p.m. \$

Rendezvous, Turners Falls: *Falltown String Band*. American roots, folk, jazz. 9:30 p.m.

FRIDAY, MARCH 2

Rendezvous, Turners Falls: *Drew Paton's 1940s Hit Parade*. Hits from the swing era. 7 p.m.

Memorial Hall, Shelburne Falls: Pothole Pictures presents *Looney Tunes Cartoon Festival* featuring a medley of Warner Bros. classics from the 1940s to the 1960s. Music from Whistle Stop at 7, show at 7:30 p.m. \$

Shea Theater, Turners Falls: *Adrianne Lenker*. Big Thief's lead singer, "paints in vivid tones... with her voice and guitar playing speak of rich emotional territory with grace and insight." 8 p.m. \$

Hawks & Reed, Greenfield: *The*

Medicinal Purpose with Tidwell's Treasure. Psychedelic soul steeped in blues. 9 p.m. \$

SATURDAY, MARCH 3

Arts Garden, Shelburne Falls: *Creatures Great and Small*.

Wendell Full Moon Coffeehouse, Wendell Old Town Hall: *Viva Quetzal*. Preceded by an open mic. Door proceeds will benefit the Community Network for Children. 7 p.m.

Memorial Hall, Shelburne Falls: Pothole Pictures presents *Looney Tunes Cartoon Festival* featuring a medley of Warner Bros. classics from the 1940s to the 1960s. Music from *Beach Honey* at 7, show begins at 7:30 p.m. \$

Hawks & Reed, Greenfield: *Dead Prez, Tang Sauce, RIQQY, Don Lox*. Hip-hop groups with politically charged lyrics that produce a style that sets them apart. 9 p.m. \$

Deja Brew, Wendell: *The Equalites*. "Reggae Fantastico!" 9 p.m. \$

SUNDAY, MARCH 4

Leverett Library: *Pen & Ink with Bill Rathbun*. Free workshop, supplies provided. 1 to 2:30 p.m.

Hawks & Reed, Greenfield: *The Joe Belmont Experience*. Divergent elements of jazz, original compositions, funk, classic songs, Chicago blues, and jamming. 6 p.m. \$

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 7

Jane Doe Jr., Greenfield: *Hollow Deck, Belltone Suicide, and Snow Pot*. Experimental. 8 p.m. \$

THURSDAY, MARCH 8

Hawks & Reed, Greenfield: *The Original Cowards with The Feldons*. Rock and some roll, soul, blues, punk from a distance, and testifying. The Feldons perform a hard-hitting mix of 60's garage rock and soul music. 8 p.m. \$

Flywheel Arts, Easthampton: *Ex-temper, OroborO, and Perennial*. Rock and roll. 8:30 p.m. \$

Rendezvous, Turners Falls: *President Metry*. Hip-hop. 9:30 p.m.

FRIDAY, MARCH 9

Rendezvous, Turners Falls: *Uncle Hal's Crabgrass Band*. Folk, country and Beatles. 6:30 p.m.

Stone Church, Brattleboro, VT: *Gary Higgins, Allysen Gallery, Sunburned Hand of the Man, and Bridge of Flowers*. Psychedelia, folk and rock. 7 p.m. \$

Hawks & Reed, Greenfield: *River Rhapsody*. Folk, rock, country, blues and soul. 8 p.m. \$

Hawks & Reed, Greenfield: *Spero Plays Nyro*. A heartfelt tribute and celebration of the music of Laura Nyro featuring Christine Spero (piano & vocal), Elliot Spero (saxes & percussion), Scott Petito (bass) and Peter O'Brien (drums). 7:30 p.m. \$

Memorial Hall Theater
POTHOLE PICTURES

Friday & Saturday
March 2 & 3 7:30 p.m.
**LOONEY TUNES
FESTIVAL**

Music at 7 p.m. Friday: Whistle Stop
Saturday: Beach Honey

51 Bridge St., Shelburne Falls 625-2896

THE LADY KILLIGREW:

*Awesome Beer
Amazing Food*

*Amazing, Awesome
Employees!*

440 Greenfield Rd, Montague MA
7 Days / 8am - 11pm (at least)
(413)367-9666

The Brick House
COMMUNITY RESOURCE
CENTER
24 3rd Street, Turners Falls

Brick House Teen Center
Drop-In Hours:
2:30 to 6 p.m.
Mondays through Fridays

www.brickhousecommunity.org
413-863-9576

**THURS 3/1 9:30 pm
Falltown String Band**

**FRI 3/2 7 pm
Drew Paton's
1940s Hit Parade**

**SUN 3/4 9 pm
TNT Karaoke**

**THURS 3/8 9:30 pm
President Metry**

78 THIRD STREET
TURNERS FALLS, MA
RENDEZVOUSTFMA.COM
TEL: 413-863-2866

PLACE YOUR BUSINESS CARD HERE (12 WEEK MINIMUM).

CALL 863-8666

Renaissance Excavating, Inc.



COMPLETE
SITE WORK

Septic & Drainage Systems | Sand, Gravel & Loam
Main Road, Gill
Douglas Edson 413.863.4462
renexc@gmail.com cell 413.834.2201

**HUGE
WASHERS!**

**HOT
DRYERS!**

Open 365 Days
6 A.M. - 10 P.M.

SUZEE'S THIRD STREET
LAUNDRY
TURNERS FALLS
FREE WIFI
Suze's
THIRD ST. LAUNDRY
TEL: 413-863-1376



**Bryan G. Hobbs
Remodeling Contractor**

Blown Cellulose Insulation • Spray Foam Insulation
Airsealing • Energy Audits • Replacement Doors & Windows

Email: bryanhobbsremodeling@gmail.com

Now accepting credit cards.

Home/Office
Telephone: 413-775-9006
Fax: 413-475-3255
Lic # 083982 | Reg # 139564

Bryan G. Hobbs
346 Conway St.
Greenfield, MA 01301



TNT Productions
DJ & Karaoke specialists



413-522-6035
www.tntprodj.net



DOLAN & DOLAN
ATTORNEYS AT LAW

174 AVENUE A
TURNERS FALLS MASSACHUSETTS
01376
413-863-3133

PERSONAL INJURY, WILLS & ESTATES, WORKER'S COMP



**OPEN DAILY
LUNCH and DINNER**
24 Federal St., Greenfield
773-0333 / thepeoplespint.com

The Pint Says: TURN THE KEY!
When you idle your car's engine for more than 10-20 seconds, you're wasting fuel.
Save on Gas - Save our Climate

BELOVED from page B1

There is much more in this book, which I would urge all those interested in American history to read. But I would also like to urge readers to think about several potential problems with the author’s interpretive framework.

First of all, when challenging traditional interpretations of events, there is a tendency to adopt what I would call “inexorable revisionism.” I have experienced this tendency myself. What happens is that you get a bit carried by your research and writing, finding fault with nearly every interpretation prior to your own. Old, discarded interpretations become the current conventional wisdom.

For example, the author stresses that past histories have tended to see the war as ending with the death of Philip/Metacom, when in fact the conflict continued well after his execution, particularly along what is now the New Hampshire and Maine coast.

While there is still sometimes a tendency to identify the end of the war with Philip’s death – and to exaggerate his role in the insurgency – there are also a number of widely-read accounts that have described the continued conflicts in northeast New England. These include Russell Bourne’s *The Red King’s Rebellion* (1990) and Schultz and Tougas’ *King Philips War: The History of a Forgotten Conflict* (2000). The insurgency on the northeast coast after the death of Philip is central to Mary Beth Norton’s *In The Devil’s Snare* (2003), an influential study

of the Salem witchcraft trials that Brooks cites frequently.

My concern here is that Brooks may unwittingly encourage a popular caricature of a historical profession deeply wedded to archaic sources and narratives. This mythology, promoted by the late Howard Zinn and his students, portrays hidebound “mainstream” historians who have not changed much since the 1950s.

This could not be further from the truth. In particular, the social history movement of the 1960s and 1970s broke new ground in interpreting the past by looking more closely at people and groups left out of traditional history. I would argue that Brooks’ study is very much in the social history tradition, which at this point is half a century old.

Furthermore, Brooks’ revisionist approach is actually central to the writing of mainstream history. Historians are always challenging “traditional interpretations” using new sources and methods. It is how we get published and get tenured positions at universities. (I wrote a revisionist account of the origins of the first federal welfare program in the 1930s, using the files of a very large federal relief program in the last months of the Hoover administration that historians had virtually ignored.)

Brooks often relies on the traditional sources, even as she criticizes them. There is nothing wrong with this, but a close look at the footnotes will show they do not support the notion of a clear dichotomy between new and traditional sources.

She also synthesizes a large body

of recent academic research on Indigenous people in New England. This is all to the good, in my opinion, but it seriously undermines the perception of a relatively static portrayal of Native Americans prior to *My Next of Kin*.

Secondly, I feel Brooks’ narrative sometimes reflects a common double standard when evaluating the behavior of Indigenous people. Everything about Indians in this book is admirable, and virtually everything about the colonists is reprehensible, including their methods of warfare, religion, their family structure, agriculture, and on and on.

Yet the colonial Indian wars, which were also conflicts between European imperial powers, were dominated by attacks on civilian settlements on all sides. I agree that much of the blame and responsibility for this in King Philip’s War should fall on the Puritan colonists, who were far more brutal than Indians. But the latter were not angels.

For example Brooks very briefly describes a young man emerging from a house during the famous raid on Brookfield to fetch water. He is, according to Brooks’ source, killed and “his head posted outside his father’s house.” We are then treated to a description of Indian warriors or “protectors” taking over the meetinghouse and singing an “exaggerated version of an English psalm.” “Come pray with us,” they taunt the town’s inhabitants huddled in a nearby building. The author suggests (on pg. 188) that the foolish settlers could only see “blasphemy,” not the

“irony,” in all this.

Later Brooks briefly notes the scalping of a pregnant woman and the killing of two children on the northeast frontier. She then spends several pages (pp. 212 to 215) explaining the rationale for the Indigenous rebellion in this region. The explanation is quite compelling but, to me, it creates the impression that Brooks feels the brutal attack on civilians is justified.

I doubt Professor Brooks feels this way, but I think she may get carried away defending the behavior of her ancestors in the face of the traditional racist view of Indians as “merciless savages” (the words of the Declaration of Independence and Mary Rowlandson).

This tendency is not uncommon in contemporary academia. Historian John Demos, for example, portrays the bludgeoning to death of Eunice Williams (the elder), at the Deerfield River after the 1704 raid on Deerfield, as a mercy killing because she would not have survived the winter trek up to Canada. (Demos, *The Unredeemed Captive*, pg. 29)

Similarly, torture by Native peoples is now routinely described as acceptable ritualistic activity. Jill Lepore uses a brutal torture scene mainly to psychoanalyze English observers, who foolishly do not understand the role of torture in Indian culture. (Lepore, *In The Name of War*, pg. 13)

I value Demos’ and Lepore’s studies, and once taught them in classes at Boston College. I would certainly do the same with *My Beloved Kin* if I were still teaching history.

The Montague Reporter

is seeking writers to cover local board and committee meetings.

Modest compensation and editorial guidance provided.

For information, contact (413) 863-8666, or editor@montaguereporter.org.

But they contain a double standard I find disturbing. Both European and Indian societies in the 17th century could be quite brutal by our standards – although, lacking bombers and rocket launchers, their brutality was more “up close and personal.” Both societies regularly committed what we would today consider to be war crimes.

We will never completely leave our values and biases at the door when we write about history. But we should try to avoid excessively romanticizing the behavior of Indigenous people and demonizing Euro-American colonists. That is, we should avoid selectively imposing 21st century academic biases on the past, lest some future historians revision us.

For further reading: See the extensive online “digital companion” to the book at ourbelovedkin.com/awikhigan/.



PLACE YOUR BUSINESS CARD HERE! (12 WEEK MINIMUM.) CALL 863-8666.

Turners Falls Pizza House
Family Owned & Operated
Serving Turners Falls area for 40 Years
Dave Argy, Family & Staff
PIZZA, GRINDERS, DINNERS, SALADS, BURGERS
www.turnersfallspizza.com
119 Avenue A, Turners Falls ♦ (413) 863-8000

15 Minutes: A Podcast About Fame.
(and whatever else)
JAMIE BERGER in conversation with David Sedaris, George Saunders, Brooke Gladstone, Matt (The Suitcase Junkie) & Kate Lorenz, John Hodgman, the list goes on
<http://15minutesjamieberger.com>
Available on iTunes and pretty much everywhere pods are cast, social: @15minsjamieb

A BEAUTIFUL Smile Starts With Healthy Teeth
GEETU SHOKEEN, DMD
Montague Dental Arts General Dentistry
300 Avenue A, Turners Falls, MA 01376 • 413-863-2288

Bob's HOME PROS
413-221-3837 WWW.BOBSHOMEPROS.COM
25 Years Experience in Commercial and Residential Building & Remodeling

CRUISE & TRAVEL COMPANY
30 Montague Street
TURNERS FALLS
413-863-3143 • 888-763-3143
www.cruiseandtravelcompany.com

About-Face Computer Solutions
Turn your computer troubles around!
(413) 863-5447
151 Avenue A, Turners Falls
WE FIX COMPUTERS!
www.about-facecomputers.com

Serving Home Grown Farm-inspired Food & Drink
H & O
44 Hope Street, Greenfield, MA 01301
Ph 413 774 3150 | hopeandolive.com

BUY LOCAL
• Free-Range Turkey
• Chicken
• Grass-Fed Beef
• Grass-Fed Lamb
• Eggs
• Lumber
Diamond Farm
Our meats and home-style comfort foods are sold year round in our store.
126 Mamon Hollow Road, Wendell, MA 01375
www.thediamondfarm.com 978-544-3996
Catering Available
Onsite Seasonally (up to 50 guests)
Offsite year-round (5-200 guests)
Onsite events held under our tent overlooking the sunset on the majestic West County Hills.
Reserve your spot now!

TURN IT UP! MUSIC & MOVIES
BOOKMILL | MONTAGUE CENTER | 367.0309

Follow the Sun into the Future
AllEarth SOLAR PREMIER DEALER
2 Fiske Avenue, Greenfield
413.772.3122
solarstoreofgreenfield.com
GREENFIELD SOLAR STORE
Quality and reliability you can count on.
AllEarth Trackers are engineered and made in VT. A system that's effective and efficient every day.
Panasonic Solar AUTHORIZED INSTALLER Not affected by tariffs.
Artist: Christine Pellerin

The Gill Tavern
Come For a Drink, Stay For a Meal
www.thegilltavern.com Open Wed - Sun at 5 PM
326 Main Road Gill, MA 413-863-9006

LS TRACTOR
Get more tractor for your money!
SIRUM FARM • TURF • INDUSTRIAL
413-367-2481
Rte 63, Montague 413-367-2481
sirumequipment.com

Reward Yourself
with the FREE GSB Debit Card BUZZ Points Program.
Greenfield Savings Bank
buzz POINTS
Earn Rewards with Every Purchase! **2X POINTS LOCALLY***
\$10 BUZZ Points Sign-up Bonus**
(413) 774-3191 • (413) 584-4441
greenfieldsavings.com
*Double points earning offer (2X points) applies only to locally-owned businesses which are in the GSB-Buzz Points Database at time of purchase and is not applicable at local outlets of national or regional chain stores or businesses.
** Must open account by 3/6/18 and sign up for BUZZ Points by 3/16/18 to qualify.
Member FDIC/Member DIF • Equal Housing Lender